

# Jordan Times

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## Senior PLO official visits Saudi Arabia

DUBAI (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee member Mahmoud Abbas arrived in Saudi Arabia Saturday at the start of a four-day visit to the kingdom, an official at the PLO's Riyadh mission said. Mr. Abbas is the most senior PLO official to visit Saudi Arabia since the organisation's apparent backing for Iraq in the Gulf war cost it the support of Gulf Arab states. The PLO source said Mr. Abbas would meet Saudi officials but gave no details. Last month Mr. Abbas held talks in Doha with the emir of Qatar and also visited the Sultanate of Oman. All Gulf Arab states cut vital financial aid and political support to the PLO when it appeared to side with Iraq in the 1990-1991 Gulf crisis.

## Petra staff to set 30% overtime allowance

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Saturday approved a recommendation by the Civil Service Commission to grant employees at the Jordan News Agency, Petra, a maximum of 30 per cent allowance for overtime work. The Cabinet also approved a recommendation by Supply Minister Mohammad Al Saqqaf to allow beneficiaries of the Civil Consumers Corporation (CCC) to use the stores of the Military Consumers Corporation (MCC) in Al Shobak, Wadi Musa, Al Husseiniyah and Al Jafr areas. The decision also allows beneficiaries from the MCC to shop at the CCC branches in North Shuneh, Al Mashareh, Ghor Al Safi and Maashiyat Al Mafrak. The decision was taken to save the government the costs of opening new branches for the two corporations in these areas. The Council of Ministers also approved the formation of Jordan's delegation to a donor's conference to be held in Paris Jan. 27-29. The delegation will be headed by the planning minister and will include the minister of finance and the Central Bank of Jordan deputy governor.

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## Dumas, Algerian leader discuss ties

ALGIERS (R) — French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas met Algerian Head of State Ali Kafi Saturday to discuss bilateral relations and ties between the European Community (EC) and the Maghreb, the official APS news agency said. Describing his talks as "very friendly and useful," Mr. Dumas said that Mr. Kafi had also briefed him on the authorities' view of the outlook for Algeria. Algeria's economy is crippled by a foreign debt of about \$25 billion and the authorities are in open war against Muslim extremists seeking to make the country an Islamic state. France is the biggest trading partner and main creditor of the country, which it ruled until being driven out in 1962. Mr. Dumas, paying a two-day working visit, said on his arrival Friday he planned to give the two countries' often-difficult relations a new momentum.

## Kuwait blocks protest over India unrest

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait Saturday blocked a decision by a community-run supermarket to dismiss non-Muslim employees in protest at the destruction of a mosque in India last month. The official Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) reported that the minister of social affairs and labour Jassem Mohammad Al Oun, ordered Al Sabahiya and Al Ahmadi Cooperative Society supermarket to rescind its Dec. 15 decision. The cooperative had described its move as a gesture of solidarity with Muslims in India after Hindu militants destroyed a mosque in northern India on Dec. 6, triggering nationwide violence in which more than 1,100 people were killed. There was no indication of the number of employees who had faced dismissal.

## Jonah in Maputo

MAPUTO (R) — United Nations troubleshooter James Jonah was to meet President Joaquim Chissano Saturday for talks on the Mozambique peace process. The U.N. undersecretary-general is on a four-day visit to Mozambique to monitor the peace pact signed by the government and the Renamo rebel movement last October. Mr. Jonah said the United Nations was making a special effort in Mozambique to prevent a situation like that in Angola, which has been on the verge of renewed civil war. Hundreds of thousands of people were killed or displaced in nearly two decades of fighting between Mozambican troops and Renamo, which was formed in the 1970s with the support of the white government in the former Rhodesia.

## Nigerian assembly meetings delayed

LAGOS (R) — The reconvening of Nigeria's recently inaugurated elected civilian national assembly has been delayed by two weeks, newspapers said Saturday. Adamu Fika, clerk of the two-chamber assembly, was quoted as saying the 683-member legislature would resume sitting in Abuja on Jan. 25 instead of Jan. 11, as previously scheduled. Newspapers said his statement gave no reason for the delay but other assembly officials said it was probably due to a shortage of suitable accommodations in Nigeria's new capital. The assembly, elected in July, was inaugurated by military President Ibrahim Babangida on Dec. 5 after being delayed by eight months to August the date for handing over full power to civilians because of fraudulent presidential party primaries.

# Iraq tension eases

## U.S. says Baghdad complied with ultimatum

Combined agency dispatches

THE UNITED STATES said Saturday that Baghdad has bowed to allied demands that it move anti-aircraft missiles from threatening positions in southern Iraq and cease violations of a "no-fly" zone in the south.

In a White House statement, presidential spokesman Martin Fitzwater signalled the end — at least for now — of the crisis that erupted late last month, saying: "All evidence indicates that Iraq is according to the requirements of the coalition's Jan. 6, 1993, demarche (demand)."

"No Iraqi aircraft have entered the no-fly zone south of the 32nd Parallel and the Iraqi surface-to-air missiles have been dispersed and are no longer threatening coalition flight operations," Mr. Fitzwater said.

While Iraq has obeyed the ultimatum the threat of allied military action remains in case of further violations, a senior U.S. official said.

"We are not right now in a crisis mode," the official told reporters. "But there are not going to be any more warnings."

The (military) hammer is still poised.

The statement by the official, who asked not to be identified, came as U.S. warplanes increased reconnaissance flights from the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk in the Gulf in cloudy skies over southern Iraq.

"But the warning still stands. There will be no more warnings" before allied military action if Iraq moves missiles back into "threatening" positions against allied planes or violates the "no-fly" zone south of the 32nd Parallel with its own warplanes, the U.S. official added.

The movements put Baghdad into compliance with a 48-hour ultimatum from the allies, which expired at 5:30 p.m. EST Friday, for moving the SAM-2 and SAM-3 missile batteries out of the no-fly zone and was moving others into non-threatening positions within the zone as demanded by the Western powers with support from Russia.

"The assessment now is that they (Iraqis) have moved some of the missiles north of the zone and that others are on the move (to less-threatening areas south of the line)," the defence official said.

The zone was established last August.

Iraq began challenging the zone two weeks ago, penetrating it several times with its warplanes, and a U.S. F-16 fighter plane shot one Iraqi MiG-25 over the zone on Dec. 27.

The Washington Post reported Saturday that alarm bells were rung over the Soviet-made missiles because Iraq had been challenging them in a "kill basket" where its fighter planes had been challenging the "no-fly" zone. It was clearly a trap setup, with the aircraft trying to lure you into the basket," an unidentified senior official told the Post.

Iraq denounced "humiliating Western demands" Saturday.

Tension seemed to be ebbing from the latest post-Gulf war crisis. Life in Baghdad was much as usual.

Petrol stations were a bit busier than normal, but there was no

panic buying and no protest demonstrations.

Iraq's latest public statement, given by Foreign Minister Mohammed Saeed Al Sahaf to the Iraqi News Agency (INA), accused the United States of fabricating the missile crisis, but steered away from the "fight to the death" tone of the Baghdad press.

In a defiant article on Saturday, President Saddam Hussein's press officer Abdul Jabbar Muhsein wrote in the government newspaper Al Jumhouriyyah that "if we want to survive, we have no other alternative but to resist and defy."

But he added: "We should express this in an honourable fight... at the time chosen for us by our leadership... and by the means it decides are suitable."

Iraq's Ambassador to the United Nations, Nizar Hamdoun, said his country reserved "the right to do anything it wants with its military installations" but he hoped a showdown had been averted. "I don't think that Iraq is interested in a confrontation."

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## Somalia force gets mixed review

MOGADISHU (Agencies) — Relief workers said Saturday that the month-old presence of a U.S.-led task force has greatly helped getting food to starving Somalis, but insecurity still dogs their work in Mogadishu and the southern port of Kismayu.

U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) Representative Mark Stirling said the multinational mission had achieved "mixed results" since U.S. marines swarmed ashore in the Somali capital on Dec. 9.

Deployment of the 31,000-strong force had helped aid groups to feed inland famine centres such as Baidoa, Bardere, Belet-Ueh and Hodur, where death and malnutrition rates are high.

Military engineers would repair the airstrips at Hodur, Belet-Ueh and Jalalaki, and patch roads around Bardere.

"So up-country the progress has been very good," Mr. Stirling told Reuters television. "There has certainly been an improvement."

But insecurity, highlighted by the murder of UNICEF staffer Sean Devereux a week ago, still hampered relief efforts in Kismayu, where U.S. and Belgian troops landed on Dec. 20.

Mr. Stirling said lawlessness in

Mogadishu itself, especially in its northern districts, was a continuing headache.

Foreign troops from 20 countries have poured into Somalia in the past month to try to stop a reign of terror by clan gangs whose feuding has killed 30,000 people and aggravated Africa's worst famine of the century.

U.N. spokeswoman Katerina Toll said 30,000 tonnes of relief goods from nine ships had flooded into Mogadishu's congested port, as well as 50,000 tonnes of military supplies.

"Operation Restore Hope is currently at D-day plus 30," said Chief Warrant Officer Eric Carlson, an American spokesman.

Foreign troops had secured eight locations for use as staging posts for relief efforts ahead of schedule, he said.

"Currently we are hoping that humanitarian relief agencies will be able to continue to operate in those sectors and very soon U.N. forces will be able to move in as we move from our current... peace enforcement role to a peacekeeping role."

The Marines were expanding their presence in Mogadishu, "conducting very aggressive patrols, seizing a lot of weapons and making it a more secure environment" for relief agencies.

Officer Carlson did not say when the Americans might turn over their leading role to the United Nations.

Though warring Somali factions signed a tentative ceasefire agreement at a U.N.-sponsored meeting in Addis Ababa Friday, any such handover will be fraught with difficulty.

Asked if the U.N. could take on the mission now spearheaded by Washington, a senior aide to Mogadishu warlord Mohammed Farah Aided said it was out of the question.

"We don't believe the U.N. can fulfill that function," Abdi Osman Farah, deputy chairman of General Aided's United Somali Congress (USC), told Reuters Saturday.

"We believe the U.S.-led force should stay with us up to the time complete peace is established, the state forces are called back and security is put back in their hands," he said.

Somali factions have agreed to hold reconciliation talks on March 15, but must still decide an agenda and guest list.

A memorial service was held in Yateley, England, for Devereux, the U.N. relief worker who was shot to death in Somalia.

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## Israel hopeful on Vatican ties

ASSISI, Italy (R) — An Israeli negotiator said Saturday that the Jewish state and the Vatican could reach agreement by this spring clearing the way for the establishment of diplomatic relations.

"It is a remarkable testimony of good faith that we have already come three-quarters of the way in such a short time," said Rabbi David Rosen.

Rabbi Rosen is a member of a bilateral Vatican-Israeli commission set up in July with a brief to normalise relations between the Jewish state and the centre of world Catholicism.

Rabbi Rosen, head of the inter-faith department of the anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL) in occupied Jerusalem, is in Assisi to attend a prayer vigil for peace in the Balkans.

He told reporters the commission had resolved "about 75 per cent" of the problems and was aiming to reach a fundamental agreement in their next few meetings. The commission is scheduled to resume meetings next month.

"Obviously, this (diplomatic relations) is one of the issues in the fundamental agreement," he said.

"If the different parties come back at the beginning of February and we have the answers to these outstanding matters and they could be agreed upon, there is no reason why only a few weeks later there could not be some exchange of diplomatic representatives," he said.

Diplomatic relations would also make it easier for Pope John Paul II to accept an official Israeli government invitation to visit the Holy Land, a trip he has said he is yearning to make.

The last pontiff in modern times to visit the Holy Land was Paul VI in 1964.

The Vatican recognises Israel's right to exist within secure borders, but has so far balked at forging full diplomatic ties.

The relations between the two states have sometimes been icy over issues such as papal meetings with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat.

For years the Vatican insisted that a solution to the Palestinian question and international guarantees for Jerusalem as a city sacred to Christians, Muslims and Jews should precede full diplomatic relations.

Recently, however, the Vatican has apparently softened its demands about Jerusalem and hopes the Middle East peace talks will resolve broader issues.

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An Iraqi woman carries food supplies at one of the Baghdad markets Saturday as life goes on as usual in the aftermath of the allied ultimatum to Iraq to pull back its anti-aircraft missiles (AFP photo)

## Israel says U.S. would veto any U.N. sanctions

Red Cross evacuates 2 expellees; nine more 'mistaken' evictees to be returned home

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — The United States has assured Israel it would veto any resolution to impose United Nations sanctions on the Jewish state for expelling 415 Palestinians to Lebanon, Israel's ambassador in Washington said Saturday.

"I would like to say quite clearly that we have been assured by the State Department at a very high level... that in no case will the U.S. allow the Security Council to adopt a resolution which could lead to sanctions against Israel," the ambassador, Zalman Shoval, told Israel Radio.

He said sanctions against Israel could halt the Middle East peace process.

"If sanctions would have been imposed this of course might sound the death knell for the peace process which Hamas and the Islamic Jihad wanted to destroy," he said.

The Security Council condemned the Dec. 17 expulsions and demanded that Israel take the Palestinians back.

U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali said Monday he might recommend unspecified steps by the Security Council to force Israel's hand.

The second U.N. envoy to visit

Israel in two weeks, Chinmaya Gharekhan, met Foreign Minister Shimon Peres Friday.

Meanwhile Israel has allowed the Red Cross to fly another nine Palestinians "mistakenly" expelled to Lebanon back to Israel's "security zone" in South Lebanon, the defence ministry said.

"The ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross) can fly them back to Naqoura tomorrow," defence ministry spokesman Oded Ben-Ami told Reuters.

Earlier Red Cross officials evacuated two others of the 415 expellees.

On Saturday, two officials of the ICRC visited the rain-soaked tent camp of the evicted Palestinians.

They evacuated Zuheir Labdah, 31, afflicted by a kidney ailment and Bassem Al Siyuri.

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Red Cross doctor Cordula Wolfberg confers with Palestinian evictees in a South Lebanon tent Saturday (AFP photo)

## Shetland islanders prevent spraying of new oil leak

SUMBURGH, Scotland (R) — The wrecked tanker Braer spewed out fresh slicks of oil as it began to break up Saturday but Shetland islanders stopped anti-pollution squads spraying dispersants because of fears over health risks.

After two days of southerly gales, preventing any spraying, the black-brown slick has spread to around 40 kilometres of coastline in the most northerly of the British Isles.

Salvage of the rest of the 85,000 tonnes of crude oil on the vessel has yet to get under way.

Storms with gusts of up to 160 kilometres an hour were forecast to hit the islands late Saturday and continue Sunday, hampering the clean-up operation further and preventing salvage teams landing on the wreck, which is impaled on rocks at the southern tip of the main island.

After watching helplessly for five days since the Braer lost power and drifted on to rocks, islanders' feelings of anger are beginning to boil over.

Shetland Islands officials told the Marine Pollution Control Service it would not take advantage of calmer conditions on Saturday morning to spray dispersant on the slick from aircraft until it could convince them the chemicals were not harmful to humans.

"There is a sense of sadness over this incident which will last a long time ahead, it's like a death in the family," Shetland Council leader Malcolm Green told a

news conference. He said he expected the cost of the disaster to the islands to run to several million pounds.

"We are aware of the concern among local people that the spray could be harmful," Chris Harris of marine pollution control said.

Around 40 square kilometres of land near the southern coast has been contaminated by airborne oil, some of it seriously. Families have moved away from the area because of the smell, complaining of nausea and dizziness.

Most do not believe scientists and health officials who tell them this atmospheric pollution is not harmful.

An indication of the change in mood among local people, who believe they are normally ignored by politicians on the mainland, was the presence of a Greenpeace representative at the news conference.

Paul Horsham, from the international environmental pressure group, said he believed one of the dispersant sprays used here was dangerous and said it had been banned in several countries.

"We view using dispersants here with extreme concern, we do not support the spraying of dispersant," he said. "They are carrying out a sort of experiment here and are not really sure what's going on."

The engine room at the stern of

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## Arabs in Europe pay tribute to King

AMMAN (Petra) — Secretary General of the pan-Arab Alliance in Europe Ahmad Al Saleheen Al Houni Saturday paid tribute to His Majesty King Hussein's call for unifying Arab ranks and adherence to pan-Arabism.

In a cable sent to King Hussein, Mr. Houni voiced the alliance's thanks and gratefulness for the King's call for establishing a united Arab nation in a federal framework made in a nationwide address Nov. 23.

"The constituent meeting which declared the establishment of the Europe-based pan-Arab alliance held in London Dec. 27-28, 1992 took a unanimous decision to send Your Majesty our appreciation and thanks for your historic address on Nov. 23 in which you called for adherence to pan-Arabism and the establishment of an Arab unity within a federal framework," Mr. Houni said in his cable.

"... The alliance in Europe appreciates Your Majesty for starting positive steps to place the Arab leaders before their historical responsibilities in this era in which unified entities in the world are appearing and the new world order is taking shape," he added.

Mr. Houni said the Arabs should face "this new world order with national unity so that they be able to affirm the status of their nation among other world nations."

He said as Arabs in Europe, estimated at about 10 million people, witness European unity, they look forward for the day when the Arab World is united.

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## Telecommunications and agriculture to be debated by Lower House

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Lower House of Parliament will Sunday discuss reports by its judiciary committee on a draft law on the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC), and the formation of a general federation of Jordanian Farmers. The proposal was presented by 63 deputies who said the federation was needed to help raise the standard of Jordanian farmers and boost their production. The House is also due to discuss the question of transforming the Telecommunications Corporation into a share holding public company and a draft law on acquiring wealth through illegal means.

The House's agricultural committee, chaired by Mohammad Alawneh, will also hold a meeting Sunday to discuss the outcome of the committee's recent tour of the southern and northern Jordan Valley regions. The committee members toured farms and prom-

ised to raise the needs and demands of farmers to Parliament. Coinciding with the visiting delegation, the Minister of Agriculture Fayez Khasawneh ended a tour of the northern Jordan Valley region where he inaugurated the premises of the Department of Agriculture which cost JD 116,000 to build. He announced that the Ministry of Agriculture has created a new section to deal with agricultural insurance and that the only thing the government can do to help farmers who suffered as a result of the severe weather in the last winter is to offer them soft loans. He said that the ministry is currently conducting a feasibility study on building cold storage facilities adjacent to the tomato paste factories. The minister's tour also included inspection visits to the newly established fisheries in Manstieh and a bee-breeding project.



**KING VISITS ARMED FORCES:** His Majesty King Hussein visited Saturday the General Headquarters of the Armed Forces where he was received by Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Field Marshal Fathi Abu Taleb, the chief of staff

of the land forces, the assistants of the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff and the inspector general. King Hussein had a meeting with Marshal Abu Taleb and discussed with him issues of concern to the Armed Forces (Petra photo)

## Italian minister due to reschedule loans

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Italian minister of foreign affairs, Signor Emilio Colombo, will make a two-day visit to Jordan on Monday, for the first visit of an Italian foreign minister to Amman since 1991.

During his stay he will discuss with Jordanian officials bilateral ties, the role of Italy and the European Community in the Middle East. The peace process will be discussed, as well as cultural, economic and commercial relations between the two countries. In 1992 Italy has become

the fifth major partner of Jordan, with a volume of trade which is around JD 100 million. An agreement was signed on December 13th, 1992 for the import-support programme (around JD 23 million in soft loans for import of Italian manufactures, semi-products and agricultural and industrial machineries).

The Italian minister and Jordan's Minister of Finance Basel Jaradneh will also sign the agreement for the rescheduling of the bilateral debt (soft and commercial loans), which amounts to some \$20 million.

Jordan and Italy have strong cultural ties. About 2,500 Jordanians are presently studying in Italian universities and some 18,000 have been studying in Italy over the last 30 years.

Italian tourists were the first and the largest group to visit Jordan after the Gulf crisis, thanks also to the excellent bilateral relations in the field of archaeology. Since 1973, number of Italian archaeological missions are excavating and exploring Jordan in collaboration with the Department of Antiquities.

## NHF exhibits Jordanian handicrafts

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Design and Trade Centre (JDTCC) of the Noor Al-Husseini Foundation is participating in three major international trade shows this month: Heimtextil Home Furnishings Show in Frankfurt; MIC Home Furnishings Show in Paris and International Carpet and Rug Market (ICRM) in Atlanta in the United States. The three shows run from January 8-18.

Items exhibited by the Centre in the three shows include rugs, embroidered pillow covers, ceramics, quilts, personal accessories, and other textile products. Eleven local handicraft producer groups affiliated with the JDTCC are represented in the three events.

Heimtextil is the world's largest home furnishings market. The exhibition of JDTCC's items at this show represents the Centre's first participation in this major international event. Last year, the Centre took part in both MIC and ICRM shows and obtained substantial purchase orders, according to JDTCC sources.

The JDTCC was established in 1990 as part of Noor Al-Husseini Foundation's National Handicraft Development Project (NHDP) to revitalize handicraft production in Jordan through a business-oriented approach that focuses on market expansion. JDTCC offers support to 30 organizations in technical and management training, product development and marketing. Among other things, JDTCC seeks to develop export markets for handicrafts Jordanian home furnishing products. The primary objective of the NHDP is to create jobs; increase income in poor communities and improve the quality of life in general. About 2000 families have bene-



Handicrafts on display: carpets and rugs

fited from the project's services. JDTCC was established with funding from the US Agency for International Development, the Canadian Government and the UN Development Fund for

Women. It has also received funds from the Jordan Development Fund as well as small grants from the embassies of Australia, the United Kingdom, China and the Netherlands.

## Troops rushed to riot-hit Bombay

(Continued from page 1)

past four days to 74, said Maharashtra Home Minister Babanrao Pachpute.

Mr. Pachpute said of the total killings in Bombay, as many as 68 had been by stabbings.

The communal flare-up, which followed countrywide religious riots last month, spread Friday to the nearby western cities of Ahmadabad and Baroda, where state television reported at least 19 killed as shops and houses were set on fire.

Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao despatched his Defence Minister Sharad Pawar to Bombay to help tackle the riots. "My first priority would be to restore normalcy and confidence among the citizens," he told reporters.

After Mr. Pawar met with Bombay police chief Sreekant Bapat Saturday morning, officials said police had been issued shoot-on-sight orders to quell riots in curfew-bound areas.

But some police sources admitted they did not have the manpower to tackle the mounting unrest.

Bombay has been tense since last month's nationwide riots in which more than 1,100 people died.

The riots were triggered by the destruction of a mosque by Hindu

milants in northern India on Dec. 6.

Police, earlier criticised for shooting dead 172 of the 202 killed in Bombay last month, have now come under attack for a more cautious approach.

"When police took action, there were allegations of excessive use of force, and when they don't use force, they are criticised for being lax," Mr. Pachpute said.

Newspaper reports said that communal tensions had been deliberately kept alive by Hindu nationalist parties like the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Shiv Sena.

They said the new violence in Bombay, which had seen few of the Hindu-Muslim clashes before last month, erupted despite government pleas for the BJP and allied nationalists to halt provocative prayer meetings on Friday.

Thousands of Hindus spilled from temples out onto roads near mosques Friday deliberately blocking traffic and apparently trying to provoke worshipping Muslims.

There are more than 100 million Muslims in India whose 870 million people are 82 per cent Hindu.

## Israel, Vatican

(Continued from page 1)

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said last October an initial step could be the exchange of personal representatives between the Pope and the Israeli president, a formula which is usually a prelude to full diplomatic relations.

"I imagine that the Holy See will not want an immediate exchange of ambassadors because diplomatic normalisation with Israel is a very charged issue... a bombastic step," Rabbi Rosen said.

But he said he believed the intermediary period between some initial form of diplomatic relations and the exchange of full ambassadors "would not be very long at all."

Rabbi Rosen said the issues the commission was dealing with were the status of Christian religious sites in the Holy Land, the legal status of the Catholic Church, its property, schools personnel and tax position.

Diplomatic sources have said that the issue of Jerusalem — which Israel declared its "united and eternal capital" in 1980 — and the Palestinian question were not fundamental parts of the agreement.

The Vatican would, however, make its concern for both issues clearly known in any document it signed.

## National Aid Fund raised by JD 5m

AMMAN (Petra) — As an outcome of the National Aid Fund (NAF) increase from JD 8 million to JD 13 million, the decision has now been taken to raise the monthly aid to needy families in Jordan from JD 40 to JD 50.

The announcement was made by NAF Director General Farouk Badran who noted that the NAF, which currently offers financial aid to 22,000 families in Jordan, plans to add to the list another 1,500.

NAF offers three types of assistance: One in the form of free interest loans which help families to start their own businesses, another, which provides money to a family, victim of a natural disaster like earthquakes and fires, and monthly aid which will now be JD 50 each, noted Mr. Badran.

NAF, he said, has recruited teams to conduct surveys on a continual basis in order to find poor families in need of aid. At least JD 50 million will be required annually for the NAF to offer a meaningful service and eradicate pockets of poverty in all



Farouk Badran

regions. Dealing with poverty in Jordan is also the task of Zakat (alms to the poor) fund which is affiliated to the Ministry of Awqaf.

The Fund's Director Rashid Shobaki said that in 1992, the fund paid JD 1.15 million in monthly aid to 2,000 needy families in Jordan in addition to poor students and the sick as well as victims of the Israeli repression in the occupied Arab lands and the victims of Serbian attacks. The

Zakat fund operates through 220 committees which control the task of registering needy families and distributing the assistance. Mr. Shobaki said. He expressed hope that the government and Parliament would support a Zakat law making it imperative for Muslims to pay alms to the poor through the fund.

Should the law be endorsed, up to JD 300 million would be collected to benefit the poor people of Jordan, he added. To eradicate poverty a suggestion was put forth by a leading figure in the women movement in Jordan who called on each wealthy family to adopt at least two needy families by providing them with food, clothing and other needs.

Mrs. Sanaa Bilbeisi, who works for the Ministry of Education and is a noted member of the voluntary corps in Jordan, said that each family with more than an income of JD 1000 a month ought to adopt such a practice. Mrs. Bilbeisi said that the charitable organisations which include women unions are not able to cater to the needs of the poor.



An UNRWA medical station which provides preventive and curative services at a refugee camp

## UNRWA to hold regular workshops at JUST

IRBID (J.T.) — The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) has chosen Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) to hold a permanent venue for its workshops and training courses for health workers employed by the agency in Palestinian refugee camps.

The announcement was made by Dr. Robert Cook, UNRWA director of health at the agency's headquarters in Vienna, who addressed the opening session of a six-day workshop at JUST for doctors and health workers at the agency's medical centre in the occupied West Bank, the Gaza Strip, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

The workshop, on training health workers in the fields of epidemiology and biostatistics, is attended by 37 participants from

the agency's five fields of operations. In emphasising the importance of the workshop, Dr. Cook said that it brings together health staff to exchange experiences and enlighten themselves on the needs of training and services in the health field.

JUST President Dr. Kamel Ajlouni opened the session by underlining the importance and benefits of improving primary health care services in the Palestinian refugee camps. "JUST places all its medical facilities at the disposal of UNRWA for the training of health workers to promote their services to the refugees," said Dr. Ajlouni.

According to Dr. Cook, the workshop, the first of its kind by UNRWA, will be held in the Arab region, will be the first in a series of training workshops that will be

held in Jordan. Dr. Pappagallo, chief of health protection and promotion at UNRWA in Vienna said that the participants are mostly senior doctors and nurses with management responsibilities in public health.

According to UNRWA officials, the choice of epidemiology as the main topic of the workshop was based on the fact that community medicine and public health needs require epidemiological skills to understand the causes of disease and to improve health services and health care. The participants, said UNRWA officials, will receive assistance and support by the department of public health of JUST and from the department of epidemiology at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine which cooperates with UNRWA and JUST.

## Medical training discussed in Damascus

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan was one of 12 Arab countries which met in Damascus in the past week to discuss ways of promoting medical training in the Arab world.

The two day discussion covered coordination among Arab medical colleges in medical specialisations as well as medical training programmes that cater to the needs to the Arab Board for Medical Specialisations (ABMS) which organised the meeting.

Health minister Aref Bataineh who attended the deliberations on behalf of Jordan said the meeting recommended setting up a special fund for training medical in Arab countries, and to finance Arab health authorities participation in the ABMS activities and operations.

The meeting, which was attended by deans of medical schools in Arab countries also discussed the question of Arab

countries that have failed to send in their subscriptions to the ABMS. Another issue was that of appointing doctors to those who pass the ABMS examination and meet its requirements, said Dr. Bataineh.

Countries represented at the two-day meeting included Jordan, Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Egypt and Yemen.

## Somalia force gets mixed review

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"In meeting Sean, every child knew that he had met someone who really loved and cared, not in any mawkish sense but in deed and in truth and with simplicity, joy and bubbling cheerfulness," said the Rev. Brian Jerstice, who had been one of Mr. Devereux's teachers.

Mr. Devereux, 28, was killed Jan. 2 as he left his office in

Kismayu with two Somali employees of UNICEF. A spokesman said he was shot three times, once in the back of the head.

Mr. Devereux had been outspoken about the corruption, extortion, looting and other criminal acts by militiamen loyal to Omar Jess, the local strong man.

It was not known whether he was shot in retribution, or was the victim of a random shooting or

some unknown dispute.

"Looking at Sean Devereux we see a totally generous life crowned by a heroic death. God did indeed live deep inside him, with no show or fuss," Rev. Jerstice told several hundred people who crowded St. Switburn's Roman Catholic Church.

The coffin was draped in the UNICEF flag as it was driven away for a private burial.

## Shetlanders block new oil leak

(Continued from page 1)

Benetton condemned

the Braer is gradually parting from the cargo tank area, according to George Sutherland, director of marine operations in the islands. Two or three of the 15 cargo tank lids have also been blown off after pressure built up in the tanks.

The slick varies in thickness on the surface but is between one and three kilometres wide. Most of the oil has been dispersed by wind chemicals to below the surface, where Greenpeace fears it will enter the marine food chain.

British wildlife groups condemned clothing maker Benetton Saturday for using the oil tanker disaster as the theme of a new advertising campaign.

Benetton, which has provoked international outrage by using controversial subjects to promote its products, took out a full-page advert in a British newspaper Saturday showing a black-and-white photograph of an oil-drenched bird with the words "Shetland Islands January 1993" stamped on it.

"This is a perfect example of another tasteless Benetton advertisement." World Wide Fund for Nature's marine conservation officer Sian Pullen told reporters. "I am appalled that they are exploiting a serious environmental disaster to try to increase their sales," Mr. Pullen said.

Hundreds of blackened birds have been collected on the southern shores of the largest of the Shetland Islands.

"Environmentalists described Benetton's advert as a 'cynical exploitation' of the oil slick tragedy.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- Exhibition entitled "Latin Countries in France" at the French Cultural Centre.
- Exhibition of watercolour paintings by Jordanian artist Salam Kanaan at Riwak Al Balqa Gallery for fine arts, Al Fuhels City.

### FILM

- Clint Eastwood's 1983 film "Sudden Impact" at 5 p.m. at the American Centre (117 min., rated 18P).



## Jordan Times

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### Sunday's Economic Pulse

## How the budget passed the Parliament

By Dr. Fehd Al Fanek

In most democratic countries, the annual budget is normally examined and checked in detail by the finance committee. The committee would ask for information and explanations and call on experts to testify in a public hearing. Once the budget passes the specialised committee, its approval by the full parliament is taken for granted, and does not take much time, especially when all political parties are represented in the finance committee.

This is not the case in Jordan. The Parliament does not take the findings and recommendations of its specialised committees seriously. It prefers to go back to square one. Not only in budget matters, but also in all other laws which attract the attention of the public and the media.

It is neither reasonable nor acceptable to see the full members of the Cabinet and the Parliament spend four full days listening to lengthy speeches discussing the budget, without requiring the government to change a figure or a comma in the budget itself. The sole purpose is to make a speech and say anything — a show off.

It is of course understood and appreciated that members of Parliament are not necessarily experts in public finance. The bulk of their comments and evaluations were similar to any comments

that may be offered by laymen who do not comprehend the concept of the budget in its entirety or understand its social dimensions, its role in directing and influencing the economy, the interrelationships among its various indicators or the side-effects of any alteration in its figures that may take place to answer popular demands.

What is not understood is to find someone who insists on making a long speech, which does not say anything. No one can give something he himself does not have.

Some parliamentary blocs decided to make one speech representing the views of all its members, to find that those members insisted later on making additional individual speeches for the sole purpose of proving that they are there, and for their pictures to appear on the TV screen that evening and in the local press the next morning. If the TV or the press ignore the nonsense, the MPs would imagine a black-out plot against their distinguished performance.

We are saddened to see an extremely low caliber in dealing with budgetary affairs. Of course we cannot comment on each speech because the only appropriate type of writing would be sarcastic or humorous, an art which we may not master.

A cynical observer suggested to the Jordan TV to air the full texts of speeches, which are close to sixty, but then withdrew his suggestion because he realised that such a step would only hurt the speakers while helping the Israeli TV attract JTV viewers. The Jordanian press, however, did publish the full texts as a written evidence that most of our representatives in Parliament have very little, if anything, to contribute to the budget and financial policy of the country.

The performance of the Parliament was supposed to improve year after year. Unfortunately, the level of discussions of the 1993 budget was not any better than the discussions of the 1990 budget. On the contrary, we see a decline in the quality of the discussions and a sharp drop in the Finance Committee report.

The distance between the Parliament and the Ministry of Finance is becoming too wide. However, the Parliament, as an institution, is still very important. First, because it gives the needed legitimacy to a national financial document, and second, because the Parliament may indirectly influence the budget during the preparation stages, before it is ready for discussion and approval by the Parliament. The fact that the budget is exposed to open discussion and scrutiny is indeed useful.

## If not now, when?

THE INTERNATIONAL military intervention in Somalia spearheaded by the United States marked 30 days yesterday with a noticeable improvement in the distribution of food to the starving millions. But two questions remain unanswered: With American officials predicting the beginning of the withdrawal of U.S. forces from the country as early as next week, is the United Nations capable of assuming the lead in the military operations that have become an inevitable part of any effort to feed the Somalis?

And what will be the fate of the small units of other countries which have joined the international effort after the Americans are gone?

By definition, small units of 200 or 300 soldiers cannot survive on their own let alone perform the difficult task in Somalia without an overall coordinating unit equipped not only with communications but massive firepower in reserve. Can or will the Americans leave their non-American colleagues behind to the mercy of the killers and bandits who obey nothing but the law of the gun?

The anarchy that continues to prevail in the countryside and the wanton violence there are clear reminders of the fate that awaits Somalia if the Americans do a half-baked job.

It was indeed heartening to note that the U.S. commanders in Somalia acted with decisiveness and a firm hand last week to take over several bases of the various warlords who led their country to unprecedented disaster through the barrels of their guns. But the sad reality remains that tens of thousands of guns remain underground in the hands of irresponsible groups and individuals who would easily reimpose their reign of terror on the streets the moment the Americans turn the corner.

Granted the total disarming of nomads who have for centuries carried weapons for self-defence is a difficult and perhaps illogical task, particularly in the unique situation in Somalia where clan rivalry remains very much a way of life and death. Granted also that there could be no effective means to block the flow of arms to Somalia from the remnants of the army of the ousted Ethiopian regime based near the border; not is it a feasible task to ensure that every weapon that could pose a potential threat is seized or neutralised.

On the other hand, the call issued last week by the 11 main Somali factions for a concerted effort to alleviate if not totally eliminate the threat of weapons reappearing in Somali streets is an indicator of the awareness of the Somali community at large of the threat that lurks below the surface. The call is indeed a clear starter if only because those 11 groups represent the bulk of the Somali community. The clan and factional leaders can easily ensure the success to a large extent of any disarming of Somalis.

Having come this far, it would be ironic for the American not to push ahead with eliminating the very reason that brought the international military intervention in Somalia. The threat is very real that the country could easily take a new plunge to the abyss of chaos and terror and it looks very unreasonable that the international community might be able to come together again and relaunch a new initiative in Somalia.

The truth today is that Somalia and its people need a determined force backed by enough firepower and logistics to ensure not only the continuity of relief efforts but also the restoration of some semblance of law and order in the country. Who can fit the bill other than the United States, which is already there?

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

THE AMERICAN escalation of the Iraqi missiles question seems to be aimed at paving the ground for a new aggression on Iraq in the last days of George Bush as president in the White House, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily. Events of the last few days, said the paper, clearly indicate that Washington and its allies have a premeditated plan ready to apply on Iraq, given the opportune moment. It is needless to say that a fresh aggression on an Arab country at this moment is bound to open the door wide for a new cycle of violence in the region, added the paper. It also said that Washington's escalation of tension at this moment seems to be aimed at diverting world public attention from the Israeli crime of exiling more than 400 Palestinians from their homeland and finding a way to save the Rabin government from the world community's condemnation of the expulsion order. The paper said that by launching a new attack on Iraq, Washington aims at forcing the Arabs to go to the negotiation table in Washington under humiliation and succumbing to the Israeli-U.S. alliance's wishes and desires. The paper noted the Arab countries' silence vis-a-vis the looming danger and said this is to be regretted. The threats directed at the Arab country and Arab people, said the paper, should encourage the Arab leaders to embark on collective measures designed to revive their solidarity rather than take a deep slumber. The paper said that the threat to Iraq is detrimental to the whole Arab Nation's future.

AL DUSTOUR said that the American and western alliance's dangerous escalation of tension in the Gulf and the threats to the Iraqi leadership constitute one more link in the long series of acts of aggression against the Iraqi people. The western alliance's demand that Iraq pull out the missiles it had deployed on its territory is a new western attempt at stripping Iraq of its sovereignty, leaving the country open for sabotage activity, said the paper. Iraq has shown absolute commitment to the U.N. Security Council resolutions and has respected all the terms of the ceasefire, allowing the U.N. inspection teams to search and destroy its weapons, added the daily. But now, as the Iraqis want to reestablish sovereignty over their own land they are confronted by a new act of aggression and new threats against their national pride, the paper added. It said that while Iraq continues to suffer from the sanctions, and as its people endure poverty and sickness, the elements of evil are once again trying to impose tragedies and more sufferings on the Iraqis. The paper strongly condemned the western alliance's continued attempts to launch aggression on the Iraqi people.

## Ad hoc salvage work won't make for world law and order

By Chester A. Crocker

WASHINGTON — My last encounter with Mohammad Siad Barre was a troubling experience. Before I could introduce my agenda, the Somali grumbled: "I have lost confidence in my people." Such was the logic of Africa's presidents-for-life.

Mr. Siad Barre complained about all the pressures placed on him by the American ambassador in Mogadishu: to reconcile with Ethiopia, to release political prisoners, to support market reforms and to observe human rights standards. "Somalis are not like Americans," he added. "We have no tradition of democracy and loyal opposition." Besides, he concluded, "I'm not Abe Lincoln."

Before abandoning Mogadishu in early 1991, Mr. Siad Barre had managed to lay waste to Hargeisa, the capital of the north, scuttle hard-won economic reforms and lose the confidence and support of virtually all foreign partners and all Somalis beyond his own Marehan sub-clan. Rival clan leaders filled the vacuum and promptly fell out among themselves. The north (former British Somaliland) broke away, and much of the rest of the country descended into that special kind of hell that happens when ordinary civilian society is allowed to become the plaything of men and boys with guns.

The decision by President George Bush (with the evident support of President-elect Bill Clinton) to mount a major humanitarian intervention in Somalia represents a dramatic departure in shaping the transitional world system. It also raises scores of questions about America's exit strategy: the United Nations capability to fill in behind U.S. forces; the precedents being set and how to define limiting criteria for other cases; and why it fell to America, once again, to act.

There are good answers to most of these questions. We need first, however, to understand why regional disorder in Somalia and elsewhere is flourishing and why U.S. leadership in these revolutionary times is vital to American national interests.

The short answer is that historical changes since 1989 have profoundly destabilised the previously existing order without replacing it with any recognisable or legitimate system. New vacuums are setting off new conflicts. Old problems are being solved, begetting new ones. The result of this process is a global law-and-order deficit that is straining the capacity of existing and emerging security institutions.

It is no coincidence that the United Nations is facing unprecedented demands to deploy peacekeepers, ceasefire observers, election monitors and even civilian administrators. New operations sprout like springtime flowers.

These demands are in part the result of peace accords that created fresh challenges of implementation and enforcement (as in Mozambique, El Salvador and Cambodia). The demands also stem from the disintegration of governments, states or empires that no longer enjoy the legitimacy and domestic or external support to survive (former Yugoslavia, Somalia, Iraq).

Whether these new "demands" are viewed as good or bad news is not the point. The point is that there is a global law-and-order deficit — and America doesn't like to talk about it. Instead it preaches to the rest of the world the post-cold war litany of U.S. goals and hopes: democracy and human rights, free markets and peaceful settlement of disputes. This sermon is fine as far as it goes, but is an inadequate answer to our era of change.

Democracy and free markets are not capable of being "ex-



ported" by Voice of America broadcasts or "taught" through exchanges of scholars. They cannot be imposed by isolation and sanctions. It is time to get the sequence right: A minimum level of order is a precondition to achieving any of these goals.

By that I do not mean to advocate autocratic rule or police states; nor do I mean a global regime of military intervention wherever outsiders conclude that unruly locals are misbehaving. But the world does need to address the mounting lack of consensus on basic norms of global political life combined with the shortage of legitimate institutions for handling the resulting security problems.

It needs to remedy the scarcity of means for "enforcing" whatever solutions may be agreed upon. Not since the Napoleonic upheavals (if not the Peace of Westphalia in 1648) have the rights of states, people and governments been so unclear.

In what circumstances are territorial borders to be considered sacrosanct and who will determine the answer? When do "identity groups" (peoples or ethnic fragments) have the right of secession, autonomy or independence? What "sovereign" rights, if any, do governments have to prevent outsiders from telling them how to treat their people, their economies and their environment?

And what about the rights of outsiders to come to the aid of peoples victimised by the actions or inactions of local governments — or to create the functional equivalent of government where, as in Somalia, none exists? George Bush and, soon, Bill Clinton are taking America through uncharted waters — an experience full of creative potential but also replete with danger.

Every age, including the cold war era, has developed answers to the questions of law and order. Periods of imperial expansion or collapse are the least stable and the most prone to violence. When the European maritime empires collapsed in the 15 years after World War II, the destabilising impact of this monumental event was somewhat buffered by the emergence of global bipolarity and the gradual assertion by Washington of a worldwide containment doctrine.

That is all gone. Not only does the West face a vast, newly decolonised zone from Tajikistan to Slovenia, but it is also witnessing mounting challenges to law and order across previously decolonised Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

Superpower disengagement from cold war stakes has removed a vital element of coherence. Old taboos about offending friends

and partners in the developing world, all part of the cold war dating game, are gone. In addition, after the breakup of Yugoslavia and the USSR (and soon Ethiopia), we are becoming rather casual towards the dismembering of states.

We in the post-industrial north are encouraging an across-the-board challenge to the political and territorial status quo.

Western activists are outdoing each other in a rush to define bilateral relationships in terms of favourite causes — environmental protection, human rights, free elections, market reforms. The World Bank now insists on greater "accountability," thereby threatening scores of incumbent elites. Non-governmental organisations are busy networking with local activists and governmental opponents across what we used to call the Third World, emboldening new political forces. The western media intrude into the agonies and conflicts of societies that would previously have excluded them.

Most of these western causes are good ones, but pursuit of them is destabilising if not subverting the existing arrangements of the world around us. It will not do to organise high-level meetings at which stern measures are adopted — which are then, not enforced. It is not enough to arrange negotiated settlements of bloody conflicts and then not insist upon their implementation.

It is time for some candour about the law-and-order deficit that the West has helped to create.

Similarly, the decolonised world is facing an onslaught of often contradictory western demands and conditions. Yet we have no way to control the political consequences of our demands. Is it a victory for western statesmanship if the pressure for democratisation opens the door to Islamic fundamentalism or to the rampant ethnic renaissance that is spreading across the former Soviet empire? Is it a plus if western disengagement from ramshackle tyrannies so weakens the local economy that young people see emigrating or living by the gun as their most promising career opportunities?

Western economic demands on other nations threaten fragile experiments in political democratisation. Yet our political demands risk undercutting painful economic liberalisation programmes in such places as Egypt, Russia or Zambia.

Yes, it is becoming easier to blow away Third World tyrants like Mr. Siad Barre, but there is no assurance that something better will replace them. Neither the United Nations nor the Arab League nor the Organisation of

African Unity nor the Europeans (who ruled the place until 30 years ago) did anything effective to save the Somalis from themselves.

So President Bush has set up an alliance to do exactly that within the context of a broad U.N. mandate. His action sends a signal of human solidarity with a cold war orphan for whom America accepts a measure of responsibility. It means that we Americans are coming dimly to recognise our interests in the world's bad neighbourhoods.

By changing the balance of power between helpless civilians and lawless armed gangs, the Somali intervention creates a window for the peacemakers and for the Somalis to build themselves a new political system. The intervention demonstrates that, far from becoming a geopolitical dinosaur, the United States is uniquely placed to point the way towards a better world order.

The president has been justifiably uneasy about the destabilisation of the international political system. Now, with Somalia, he has created the precedent for global action to save civilians in zones of mayhem and to create the space for political solutions during civil conflict.

But if America is to expand the zone of law and order around the globe, the next president will need to move fast to capitalise on its global position and strengthen international security. The law-and-order deficit cannot be eliminated by relying solely on ad hoc, unilateral American actions, no matter how forceful the decisions or masterful the execution.

The world needs some internationally agreed-upon rules and criteria, as well as dedicated mechanisms, for planning and conducting the internationally sanctioned uses of force. The past few years have made a muddle of the international legal system; it, too, needs work. Dispute resolution mechanisms proliferate, but they tend not to be used or linked to implementation/enforcement procedures. Regional bodies and the United Nations need the tools and rules to cope with new assignments as well as classic peacekeeping missions.

America does not want endless tests of its readiness to lead while other experienced powers evade responsibility. It does not want to become a ripe target for a future backlash (both domestic and foreign) against U.S. leadership. American military strength and diplomatic creativity are simply too important to afford such setbacks during the prolonged transition to a more orderly, democratic and prosperous community of nations — The Washington Post.

### LETTERS

## Thank you, people of Jordan

To the Editor:

I have just returned after a visit to Jordan. I would like to express my gratitude and thanks to all the people of the country collectively who without exception were kind, generous and helpful towards me. A stranger in any land is apprehensive about his/her reception especially without benefit of the native language. I was never made to feel an intruder, or a nuisance but was warmly welcomed by everyone I met. Ordinary people went out of their way to escort me to my destinations, to facilitate my requests and to offer me small gifts.

Jordan is not a rich country and the people are not as wealthy as other Arab states, and yet as a more prosperous western I was never asked to pay more than that which was necessary and I was on many occasions given goods and services without charge.

It seems as if Jordanians have retained values and priorities that we in the West have long lost, where children and family members are precious and loyalties strong, where one may leave his business or shop unattended in the middle of the day (without fear of vandals or burglars) to go to meet with his God on more important matters.

It was not possible to express my thanks to each individual personally, but I was very deeply touched by my experiences and hope that everyone who reads this and remembers me will accept my warmest thanks for making my stay so pleasant.

Congratulations to His Majesty the King who must be an extraordinary man, clearly anyone who can have his whole country sing his praises incessantly with such genuine love and devotion must be special. I still have Hashemi, Hashemi singing in my ears and was moved enough to sing it along with the others on New Year's Eve.

Finally, thanks to all at Mur'ah University, the students and staff who invited me into their homes and shared whatever they had with me. A special thank you to the officers of the army whose politeness and kindness did not go unnoticed. Thank you Jordan.

I have brought back to Scotland an image that will last forever, an image created by a simple and loving people.

June Maxwell,  
The Language Centre,  
University of Glasgow,  
Scotland.

## What's in a name

The following letter appeared in The Guardian newspaper of December 31.

In February 1989 you published my open letter to the Israeli ambassador expressing my despair as a Jew after reading "Eyeless in Gaza". Dr. Soree Ang's account of her work amongst persecuted Palestinians. I ended that letter by asking whether I could go on calling myself a Jew. Now, after the brutal extinction of recent hopes that Israel was at last seeking to restore our ancestors' good name, my feelings are bitter indeed. But I will not renounce my Jewish blood. What I must do is denounce the Israeli government's claim to call themselves Jews. So, too, must go the claim to Jewishness of those 91 per cent of Israelis who apparently applaud these evil leaders.

Since World War II we have read endless sickening accounts of Nazi bestialities during the Holocaust against our forebears, members even of our own families. Knowing this, how can these pretend Jews round up 415 oppressed people, select them without trial on the whims of secret policemen, transport them to a freezing wasteland, shoot at them if they move and even prevent them receiving food or medicine from others more humane than themselves?

Perhaps all that can be said in mitigation for these evildoers is to note the parallel between them and the well-researched child-abuser syndrome, namely that abusers are often found to have been victims of abuse themselves. Undeniably, many Israeli Jews were themselves victims of atrocities. But it is surely time their leaders looked beyond their own past suffering. They must face the fact that the evils they are perpetrating will not give us the security we long for; on the contrary, they breed new waves and generations of hatred which will break one day upon their own children and upon mine.

If they don't care about their children, they have forfeited the right to call themselves Jews. We have enough antisemitic prejudice to face, without this gang of outlaws doing their best to give us all a bad name.

Stanley Walmsley,  
Mickleton,  
Co Durham.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.



## With no guarantees, everyday ways to beat the blues

By Daniel Goleman

**NEW YORK** — In a foul mood? Try comparing yourself with someone worse off, or giving yourself a treat. Those are among the more successful tactics emerging from research on the methods people use to shake off gloom, anxiety and anger.

The ability to get out of foul moods is a mark of mental well-being. But new studies show that people differ greatly at making themselves feel better, with many habitually turning to tactics that fail or backfire.

Three days of bad moods out of 10 is about average, according to recent findings, with just 2 per cent of people in cheerful moods nearly every day and about 5 per cent having bad moods on four of five days.

Psychologists hope the research on everyday moods will pay off in more effective methods for people whose inability to shake bad moods makes them susceptible to chronic mild depression, nearly continuous tension or bouts of rage.

"Some people just aren't very adept at getting out of bad moods," said Roy Baumeister, a psychologist at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland who has done mood research. "They tend to keep on using techniques that don't work all that well."

People say they have more ways to escape sadness and seem to have more success doing so than they do for anger, which seems the hardest mood to shake, according to the findings of Diane Tice, a Case Western psychologist.

In research with more than 400 men and women from 16 to 75, Professor Tice studied the many strategies people use to get out of bad moods and how successful they were.

About 5 per cent of people say they never try to change their moods on the grounds that emotions are natural and should be experienced no matter how unpleasant, she said. "And some people, like bill collectors, reported purposely setting out to make themselves grouchy in

order to be better at their jobs."

The single most popular way to shake sadness, her research showed, is to turn to the company of others. "But it doesn't work if you just get together and talk about what's getting you down," she said. "It's far better to focus on something else."

Exercise is another common antidote. "Depression is a low arousal state," Professor Tice said, "and exercise increases your arousal level." Several studies with mildly depressed men and women have shown that beginning regular aerobic exercise can lift the depression.

But exercise has its limits as a mood lifter. A psychologist at the University of Michigan, Randy Larson, working with a Hope College researcher, Margaret Kasimatis, found that for people who do aerobic exercise daily, there is little effect on mood.

"People who work out the most, who are aerobically fit already, don't get into better moods when they exercise, but they do get irritable and cranky on days they don't exercise," Professor Larson said. "It's the sedentary people who get the biggest boost in mood when they exercise."

Sensual pleasures offer another antidote for depression. "Taking a hot bath is a way many people soothe themselves when depressed, as is making love or listening to some favourite piece of music," Professor Tice said. But eating doesn't work so well, she added. In a study of 120 college students, she found food preferred by about three times as many women as men.

Drinking and drug-taking, which also backfire as mood elevators, are preferred by five times as many men as women. "Drinking or drugs lift a bad mood in the short term, but later people often report feeling worse than before," Professor Larson said. In his research, 60 men and women filled out reports twice a day on their moods and what they had done to change them. Mental manoeuvres sometimes

work. Among them, Professor Larson found, are reminding oneself of successes, resolving to do better, thinking of people who are worse off and indulging in a treat.

Perhaps most effective is trying to change whatever is causing the bad mood.

Engineering an easy success can help. "A small challenge you can work hard at and take pleasure in accomplishing — especially something you've been wanting to get to — usually lifts a bad mood," Professor Tice said. "Household chores like fixing up the kids' room or cleaning your desk work well." She added that buying yourself a gift was often effective.

Distractions are also appealing, but Professor Larson found that losing oneself in television, movies or magazines offered only short-term mood change. Although not always effective, such distractions were one of the most common ways by which people sought to shake bad moods.

Other common tactics backfire or work poorly. Socialising, for instance, brought a short-term gain, but left people in a bad mood afterward, Professor Larson found. "Socialising may work best to change moods for extroverts, who are able to keep up a constant round of company," he said.

"Being with other people works better to change your mood if you're angry than if you're depressed," Professor Tice said. "One mistake people sometimes make is to use company to talk about what's gotten them depressed, which does not lift the bad mood."

Being alone, she found, can reinforce sadness. "Depressed

people tend to say, 'Leave me alone, I'm in a bad mood,' but that just doesn't help them at all."

Only a few methods seemed to work well for anger, she added. One is being alone. But 10 per cent of the men in her study said they liked to get into their cars and go for a drive when they were angry.

"It's made me a more defensive driver, realising how many drivers out there are boiling mad," she said. More effective, and safer, is going for a long walk, she added.

One of the best antidotes for anger, Professor Tice found, is seeing the situation from the other person's point of view, and imagining why that person might have done whatever provoked the anger.

"Catharsis — taking out your anger on the person you're mad at — doesn't lift the anger," she said. "It's better if you cool down first, and then confront the person."

For alleviating anxiety, relaxation and distraction work well, the Tice data showed, as does talking over worries with someone else.

Lending a helping hand to someone in need is one of the most successful ways to change a bad mood, but one of the least used, Professor Tice found. "One woman who was deeply depressed after breaking up with her boyfriend started volunteering with kids at a homeless shelter, and she shook the depression."

Another relatively rare, but apparently effective, method for some people is risk-taking. "Buying a lottery ticket can sometimes work," she said, as can engaging in a mildly dangerous sport — New York Times.

## Case for a 'closed' universe?

Satellite uncovers possible proof of theory

By John Noble Wilford

**PHOENIX, Arizona** — An X-ray astronomy satellite has discovered the first strong evidence that the universe may not expand forever, but someday could be brought to a halt by its own mass.

There is not enough visible matter to halt the observed expansion of the universe. The Big Bang theory of the universe's formation predicts that most of its matter should be in invisible form, but so far astronomers have failed to turn up evidence for anything like as much "dark" matter as the theory requires. After the results reported Monday, however, at least one part of the universe has as much dark matter as predicted, and astronomers can now hope to find others.

Success would mean the universe is not open, meaning destined to expand forever, but closed. In a closed universe, the gravitational force of its matter is enough to match or exceed the outward force of its expansion.

The observations, reported at a meeting of the American Astronomical Society, supported theories that most of the universe is composed of invisible material of an unknown kind. Analysis of the data indicated that the mass of that "dark matter" might be as much as 25 times greater than that of ordinary matter, the elemental stuff of visible stars, planets and people.

One of the astronomers who made the discovery, Richard F. Mushotzky of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, said, "It's the first time there is evidence of enough dark matter to support the idea that the universe is closed."

Jack Burnes, a cosmologist at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, said the discovery

was "very important and fundamental." Like the discoverers themselves, he cautioned that more observations would have to be made to determine whether the findings were typical of conditions throughout the universe.

Cosmologists have contemplated two alternatives to a closed universe. If there turns out to be much less mass, the universe might be open and keep on expanding, diminishing into infinity; or with considerably more mass, the universe might be dragged to a halt and then collapse, in what is described as the Big Crunch.

For years, scientists have postulated the existence of dark matter. Its presence has been deduced from the relative amounts of light elements and isotopes produced by the Big Bang and from the movements of galaxies

in clusters, suggesting the gravitational forces of considerably more mass than could be seen. Besides, the leading versions of Big Bang theory, to be correct, require that 90 to 95 per cent of the cosmic mass must be in the "dark" form.

The Rosat satellite, called Rosat and operated by Britain, Germany and the United States, did not observe dark matter, which by its nature does not emit detectable radiations. The presence of the matter was inferred from what the scientist did see in X-ray pictures from the satellite.

The pictures of the three galaxies of the NGC 2300 group revealed an immense cloud of hot gas amid them.

"A cloud like this would have dissipated into space long ago, leaving nothing for us to detect, unless it was held together by the

gravity of an immense mass," Mr. Mushotzky said. "The mass required to restrain the cloud is 12 to 25 times greater than the mass of the three galaxies that are present."

In previous observations, mainly of much larger galactic clusters, the detected ratio of dark matter to visible matter was no more than 2 or 3 to 1 — hardly enough, if widespread, to close the universe.

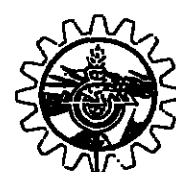
The question, then, is how typical is the mass of dark matter inferred to in a small group of galaxies like NGC 2300?

If this group of galaxies is not typical, said David Burstein of Arizona State University, another member of the discovery team, "We've opened up a different Pandora's box and we'll have to understand what makes this difference." — The New York Times.

لجنة تنسيق الشراء الموحدة  
The Coordinating Committee of the Consolidated Purchasing



شركة مصانع الاسمنت الاردنية  
The Jordan Cement Factories Co. Ltd.



شركة البوتاش العربية  
The Arab Potash Co. Ltd.



شركة مناجم الفوسفات الاردنية  
Jordan Phosphate Mines Co. Ltd.

### INVITATION TO TENDERS

The Higher Committee of the Consolidated Purchasing in:

- Jordan Phosphate Mines Co. Ltd.
- The Arab Potash Co. Ltd.
- The Jordan Cement Factories Co. Ltd.

Announces the invitation to the following tenders:

- 1) Tender No. F.P.C. 1/93 (for the supply of conveyor rubber belts).
- 2) Tender No. F.P.C. 2/93 (for the supply of general tires).

Tender documents and conditions can be obtained from the Jordan Phosphate Mines Co. Ltd. offices in Amman/ Tender Section against JD 150 non-refundable fees for each set of tender documents.

The closing date for submission tenders is 12:00 hours local time Saturday 27 February 1993.

The Higher Committee of Consolidated Purchasing

## Tension eases in Iraq stand-off

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Hamdoun said in a U.S. television interview.

There was no mention in Baghdad newspapers or radio of the U.S. statements that Iraq was moving its missiles.

A banner headline in Babel, the newspaper of President Saddam's son Uday, said that, "Even if death is inevitable, it would be a disgrace to be a coward."

Iraq repeated Saturday its insistence that if U.N. weapons inspectors want to fly in and out of the country they should charter Iraqi aircraft.

Baghdad banned U.N. planes on Thursday and the Security Council has warned of unspecified serious consequences unless the order is rescinded.

INA said Foreign Minister Sahaf had told the cabinet it was "unreasonable, even inhuman" for the U.N. officials to fly while Iraqis and other foreigners could not.

"Iraq is fully committed to

Security Council Resolution 687. Raising the subject of how U.N. (inspection) teams are transported does not mean obstructing their tasks," Mr. Sahaf said.

Iraq's civilian fleet has been grounded since the Gulf war when the planes were flown to neighbouring countries for safety. In his earlier remarks on the missiles, Mr. Sahaf said, "the situation was fabricated by the U.S. administration for the creation of a crisis with Iraq" because its missiles had been in southern Iraq since before the Gulf war.

Mr. Sahaf said the United States was trying to deprive Iraq of "practising its legitimate right for sovereignty and for the defence of its national integrity."

U.S. President-elect Bill Clinton said Iraq had "gotten a reprieve," but it would be a "serious misreading" for Iraq to think that "just because President Bush has a week left in office that either he or I would somehow be deterred from doing what's right here."

## Israel says U.S. would veto sanctions

(Continued from page 1)

16, expelled by Israel from Hebron mistakenly.

Mr. Ben-Ami said, "The Red Cross had requested permission for the evacuations while its delegates were assessing the condition of the evacuees at the camp."

He said Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin had approved the request.

Israeli military doctors inspected Mr. Labbadah in Naqura and allowed him to be taken to hospital in Marjayoun in Israel's self-declared Lebanese "security zone," a security source said.

Mr. Ben-Ami emphasised that it was a one-time gesture. Until Saturday Israel had not allowed access to the evacuees through its lines.

Mr. Ben-Ami said Siyuri was to return Saturday night to his home in Hebron.

Israel announced last month that the 10 Palestinians mistakenly expelled could return but not through the Israeli-controlled Zennara junction. Lebanon refused to allow them to leave the tent camp to get to crossing points under its control.

The Israeli defence ministry said most of the 10 faced imprisonment upon their return.

Lebanon said Saturday it would ask for an Arab summit to discuss the Israeli expulsion at an Arab foreign ministers meeting in Cairo next week.

Foreign Minister Fawzi Bouze said he would also propose on the Arab League meeting Monday to ask the United Nations for a mechanism and a timetable for the implementation of Security Council Resolution 799.

Resolution 799 condemns Israel over the expulsions and demand it to take them back immediately. Mr. Bouze told the Voice of Lebanon radio that an Arab summit would give Arab demands Israel take back the evacuees "more effectiveness."

A leading Tunisian newspaper said Friday that Israel is willing to accept a wider Palestinian delegation to the Middle East peace talks as a way to get the negotiations going again.

The U.S.-backed talks were suspended last month until after President-elect Bill Clinton is inaugurated Jan. 20. But Palestinians have said they may boycott future sessions in solidarity with the expelled Palestinians.

The government-run Al Sahafa newspaper quoted unnamed Palestinian in the bilateral negotiations by Palestinians from outside the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The delegates in the past have been limited to the occupied territories.

The newspaper said the proposal was carried to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) by Western intermediaries. It was not known if the PLO agreed.

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## SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

## Honda announces Indy programme

DETROIT (AP) — Honda expects to become part of the IndyCar Series in 1994, but the question remains: with what teams? The announcement by American Honda Motor Co., Inc., in Detroit, said only that Honda has established a new subsidiary company, Honda Performance Development, Inc., to supply engines for a "flagship" IndyCar team. It said testing will start this year, with competition on the full IndyCar Circuit starting in 1994.

## Van Almsick dominates Swimming World Cup

BEIJING (R) — Germany swimming Prodigy Franziska Van Almsick broke her second world record in four days and her third in two months Saturday, with a stunning victory in a world 200 metres freestyle short-course event. Her time of one minute 55.84 knocked almost half a second off the previous record held for 10 years by Birgit Meineke of the former East Germany. Three days Van Almsick broke the 100 metres freestyle world record at the first leg of the World Cup series, held in Shanghai, and last November she overturned the 50 metres record at Schwabach in Germany.

## Bergstrom, Kulti advance

ADELAIDE (AP) — Christian Bergstrom and Nicklas Kulti took care of the remaining seeds at the South Australian Open Tennis Tournament, ensuring that Sweden will be represented in Sunday's final. Bergstrom defeated fourth-seeded Cedric Pioline of France 7-5, 7-6 (7-4) while Kulti downed third-seeded Alexander Volkov of Russia 6-4, 1-6, 6-3 in the \$185,500 tournament.

## Hill wants to defend title in Paris

BISMARCK (AP) — Virgil Hill wants to defend his World Boxing Association light heavyweight title in March against no. 2-ranked Fabrice Tiozzo in Paris. But he says the deal is not yet final. The fight, which had been planned for March 6, would be Hill's first defence since winning back the WBA crown with a decision over Frank Tate last September. He lost the title to Thomas Hearns in 1991. "I don't know a lot about him, but I know he's a good fighter or he wouldn't be No. 2," Hill said of Tiozzo.

## Two German Swimmers banned

BONN (R) — Two German swimmers were banned from competition for six months for taking banned drugs. The German Swimming Federation (DSV) said it had imposed the ban after second tests confirmed Simone Schobert and Kristina Quasner to Anchen had taken the drugs before National Club Championships in Hildesheim last month. The pair accepted the ban but denied knowingly taking banned substances, the DSV said.

## Haas believes Mansell is extra-special

PHOENIX (R) — Carl Haas says he is rarely excited anymore by anything he sees in motor sport. But he admitted he had been stimulated this week by Nigel Mansell's test debut with the Newman-Haas IndyCar team. "I felt the palms of my hands were damp and I knew it was extra-special," said Haas after watching the Formula One world champion blast around the Phoenix International Raceway for the first time. "He was awesome. People say we are on the way to lifting IndyCar racing to a new level with Nigel this year. But I say he has done that already," said Haas who tracked Mansell for two years then negotiated with him. Finally, he persuaded him to sign for the team he co-owns with film actor Paul Newman.

## Couples receives 2nd PGA award

CARLSBAD, California (AP) — Fred Couples still doesn't like being in the spotlight, although he is finding it hard to avoid. "I kind of know what to expect when I'm out on the tour. But when I go home, I don't think I ought to have anybody bugging me," Couples said before receiving an award last night as the 1992 PGA Tour Player of the Year. It marked the second consecutive time Couples' peers — the other touring pros — selected him as the outstanding player on the American Tour.

## Pakistan crushed by Windies in World Series

BRISBANE (R) — World champions Pakistan were bundled out for their lowest score in one-day international cricket when they lost to the West Indies by nine wickets in a World Series Cup match at the Gabba ground Saturday. Pakistan were bundled out of the competition after scoring a miserly 71 — three runs short of their 74 against England in last year's World Cup. West Indies easily overhauled the target in 19.2 overs, losing only one wicket in the process — that of Brian Lara for 10. Desmond Haynes (25) and Richie Richardson (22) were the unbeaten batsmen.

## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF  
& TANNAR HIRSCH

## ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠KQ732 ♠AQJ54 63 ♠6  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠AK854 7652 93 ♠72

The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Dbl ?  
What action do you take?

A.—After an opposing takeout double, a jump in opener's suit would be preemptive. That action, however, should be reserved for hands that contain a singleton and few defensive values. Here you should make the same response you would have had there been no double. Raise to two hearts.

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠72 ♠K83 ♠J62 ♠J43

Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond?

A.—Normally, you would show four-card suits up-the-line. However, when your hand is so weak that you intend making only one forward-going response, it is usually right to bid the major rather than the minor, especially if the red suits are involved. Bid one heart.

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠AKQ84 ♠AQJ854 ♠A  
What is your opening bid?  
A.—Two-suited hands are very difficult to bid if you start with an artificial forcing two clubs. This holding will be easier to describe if you open one diamond and reverse into hearts. If you play strong twos, by all means open two diamonds.

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠AKJ83 ♠AJ6 ♠9852

The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass

What do you bid now?  
A.—Not very pretty. To rebid three hearts would show a six-card suit, and a raise to three no trump could be catastrophic. Bidding three diamonds to pinpoint your side strength might derail the auction, so that leaves only a bid of three clubs. We hate introducing such an anemic suit at the three-level, but at least it draws attention to the fact we have a distributional hand.

Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠83 ♠AKJ76 ♠954 ♠AJ8

The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?  
A.—An awkward hand. You can't raise spades, and a heart rebid would promise a six-bagger. Since bidding no trump with an unstoppered suit is unappealing, the only stratagem left is to make a temporary bid of three clubs.

## Jordan tops 20,000 point mark; Parish grabs 13,003rd rebound

CHICAGO (AP) — Michael Jordan became the 18th player in NBA history with 20,000 points when he scored 35 Friday night in the Chicago Bulls' 120-95 rout of the Milwaukee Bucks.

Jordan's 3-pointer with 5:12 left pulled the Bulls into a 110-77 lead and gave him exactly 20,000 points in his ninth year in the NBA. He was taken out 13 seconds later to a thunderous ovation from the sellout crowd in Chicago stadium.

In reaching 20,000 in 620 games, Jordan was eclipsed only by Wilt Chamberlain, who made it in 499 games. Oscar Robertson is now third-fastest at 671 games.

Jordan, whose 32.3 career average is No. 1 in NBA history, scored eight points in the final quarter when the Bulls had the game under control. His last two baskets were 3-pointers.

Celtics 102, Nets 88

Xavier McDaniel scored 24 points and Boston took advantage of New Jersey's 37 per cent shooting for its fourth straight victory.

The Nets, missing top scorer Drazen Petrovic because of a sprained right ankle, got 6-for-26 shooting from starting guards Kenny Anderson and Rumeal Robinson and scored 41 points in the second half. Anderson was 1 for 10.

Robert Parish had 11 rebounds for Boston to become the ninth player in NBA history to pass 13,000. He now has 13,003 rebounds.

Lakers 93, Kings 90

James Worthy scored 12 fourth-quarter points, including the final four of the game, as Los Angeles ended Sacramento's six-game winning streak.

The Lakers, who earlier this season lost to the Kings at the Forum for the first time in eight years, were hard-pressed to beat

them this time.

With Los Angeles ahead 91-90, Sam Perkins controlled a jump ball with five seconds remaining to wrap up the victory, outleaping Lionel Simmons.

Worthy, who scored 25 points, came down with the ball and Simmons fouled him with 1.7 seconds left. Worthy then made both free throws to seal the win.

Hawks 101, Pistons 92

Duane Ferrell matched his career-high with 27 points and Atlanta snapped Detroit's nine-game home winning streak.

Ferrell equalled his output of Dec. 26 against Minnesota in leading the Hawks to their first win in three meetings with the Pistons this season.

The Hawks, who lost four straight before winning at Milwaukee got 22 points and 10 rebounds from Stacey Augmon.

Detroit got 27 points from Joe Dumars, and 23 from Orlando Woolridge, while Dennis Rodman grabbed 26 rebounds.

76ers 119, Bullets 117

Ron Anderson's follow shot at the buzzer capped a 23-point performance that helped Philadelphia rally past Washington after blowing a 16-point lead.

Anderson's game-winner came off a miss by Jeff Hornacek, who tossed up an off-balance jumper after taking the inbound pass from under the basket with 1.6 seconds left.

Rookie Clarence Weatherspoon scored a season-high 24 points on 9-of-11 shooting and Armon Gilliam also had 24 for the 76ers.

For the Bullets, Pervis Ellison had 28 points and 14 rebounds.

Magic 95, Knicks 94

In Orlando Shaquille O'Neal had 22 points and 13 rebounds, and pressured Patrick Ewing into a miss in the final seconds of Orlando's 95-94 victory over New York.



Chicago Bulls' ace Michael Jordan

Ewing had 21 points and 12 rebounds. But guarded closely by O'Neal, he missed an off-balance hook and O'Neal grabbed the rebound and dribbled to mid-court to run out the clock.

The Magic trailed 91-81 with six minutes left, but O'Neal's dunk began a 14-3 run that ended the game.

Supersonics 98, Timberwolves 93

Derrick McKey's three-point play with 13.2 seconds to play broke a tie and helped Seattle defeat Minnesota.

With the score knotted at 93-

all, McKey drove past Christian Laettner, scored on a running one-hander, got fouled and converted the free throw. After a missed 3-pointer by Minnesota's Lance Blanks, Sean Kemp completed the Seattle scoring with a slam dunk.

Ricky Pierce scored 20 points for the Sonics, who have won four straight games and nine of their last 10. At 21-8, Seattle is off to its best start in 10 years.

Doug West scored 23 points and Laettner 18 for the Timberwolves, who lost for the 15th time in 17 games.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY JANUARY 10, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Some ideas and methods different from those you have been using can add greatly to your stature and your financial and emotional well-being as you continue to aim for a fine standard of living.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) You have the energy and the good judgement to perform whatever career, civic or credit conditions that face you so get out and show your practical capabilities.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Many new ideas are at your fingertips if you consult with those you have not previously known but who have made a big success of their lives.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Consider a more well rounded picture of your material affairs and you will have some ideas what you can best do to enhance your prosperity.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) You need to be just as calculating as the associates with whom you are dealing now so avoid sensitivity and meet them on their terms.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Your tasks can run very smoothly and effectively today if you make a point to plan your hours carefully and then follow such a schedule with care.

**VERGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Contact whatever playmates or chosen companions you wish to

engage in recreations with and make appointments to enjoy the amusements you all like.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Even when in the outside world, away from your dwelling, think of the best ways by which you can improve conditions there and have a greater accord.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) You have both the energy and the ambition to get much done today so lose no time but get in touch with available associates and arrange things your way.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Be more practical today and put your attention as much as you can on arranging your financial and business affairs for future security.

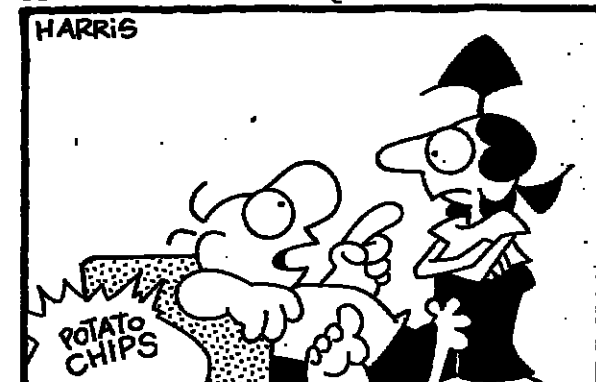
**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Your ability to build a solid foundation to your affairs is now evident in almost anything you do to express your personal longings.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Forget all that wistful thinking and those imaginative ideas and get into the materialistic phases of your plans for your future expansion.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) You have older or more experienced friends than yourself who are able to show you how to be more successful in gaining your objective aims.

## THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

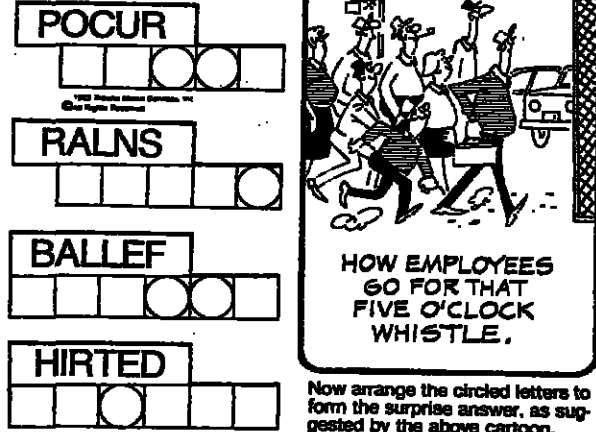


"If we're both gonna do the housework equally, you've got to get a lot lazier!"

## JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Print answer here:

Yesterday's Jumbles: LISLE SIEGE DINGHY WHALER  
Answer: What the law made the crooked butcher see the error of—HS WEIGHS

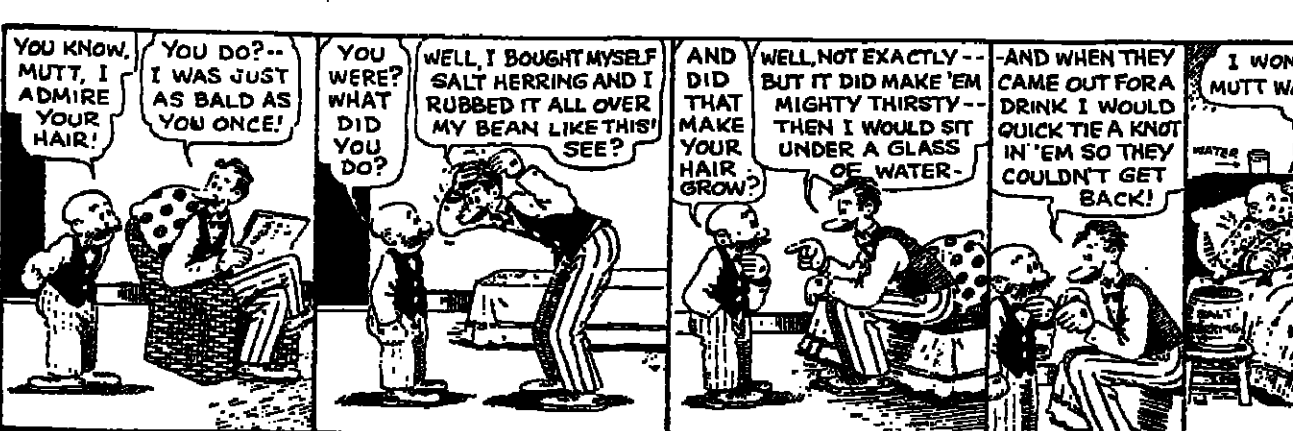
## Peanuts



## Andy Capp

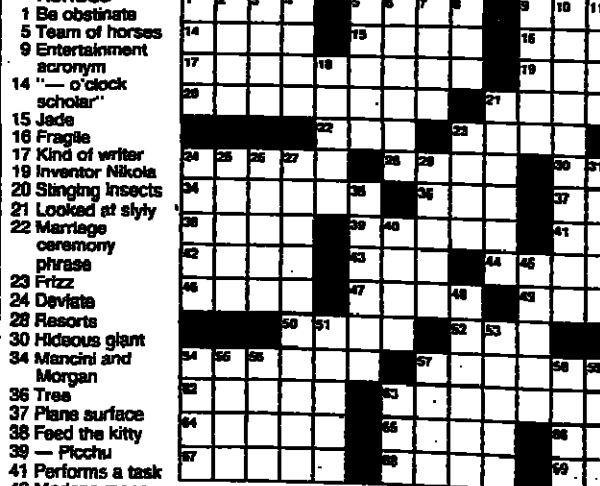


## Mutt'n' Jeff



## THE Daily Crossword

by Rene M. Campbell



**ACROSS**  
1 Be obstinate  
5 Team of horses  
9 Entertainment acronym  
14 "— o'clock scholar"  
15 Jade  
16 Fragile  
17 Kind of writer  
19 Inventor Nikola  
20 Singing insects  
21 Looked at slyly  
22 Marriage ceremony phrase  
23 Fizz  
24 Deviate  
28 Resorts  
30 Hideous giant  
34 Mincini and Morgan  
36 Tree  
37 Plane surface  
38 Feed the kitty  
39 Picchu  
41 Performs a task  
42 Modern money  
43 Nettle  
44 Indulge  
46 Friend  
47 Forfeiture  
49 Man-made fiber  
50 Candid  
52 Account  
54 Startles  
57 Ship equipped to fight flames  
62 — Gables, Fla.  
63 Something for nothing  
64 Listing  
65 Stag  
66 Elaborate party  
67 Decades  
68 Church part  
69 Scuffle  
**DOWN**  
1 Poor golf stroke  
2 It city  
3 Wrenson look  
4 Leg joint  
5 Position  
6 Plebald  
7 Rainbows  
8 Formerly called  
9 Following  
10 Sponge  
11 Assignment  
12 Initiate  
13 "When I was — I served."  
18 Those not of the clergy  
21 Conditioning exercise  
23 Currency  
24 "— We Dance?"  
25 Old-time skater.  
26 Within: pref.  
27 Brav  
28 Shows  
31 Sound of pain  
32 Singer  
33 Abolish  
34 Term  
35 Sharp ridge  
36 Grits  
40 Elvis — Presley  
43 Tag  
48 Actor David Ogden  
51 Beers  
52 Incessantly  
53 Sharp ridge  
54 Best at  
55 Pigeon place  
56 Seed covering  
57 Draw tight a nautical rope.  
58 Polish  
59 Lull  
60 Official records  
61 "— also serve."  
63 Govt. org.



## France sees U.S. strength as a cause of trade, currency crises

PARIS (R) — The end of the cold war has laid bare the commercial rivalry of rich countries and made the United States more assertive, French Prime Minister Pierre Bérégovoy has said.

In an article in the afternoon daily *Le Monde*, Mr. Bérégovoy said the more demanding stance of the U.S. explained in part the crisis in world trade talks and the recent turmoil in European currency markets.

Mr. Bérégovoy said the disappearance of Soviet threat gave free rein to "the economic conflicts between developed countries," and the weak world economy exacerbated commercial tensions.

"I note, without bitterness but with realism, that the American superpower is becoming demanding in the commercial field," he said, citing first the GATT trade talks as evidence.

The trade talks, held under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), have been bogged down by disputes on agriculture between the U.S. and European Community.

## Taiwan to let foreign brokers invest in bourse

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan, seeking to internationalise its stock market, will allow foreign brokerage houses to invest in the bourse, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has said.

"This will be a step towards making our stock market an international one," Huang Wu-Cheng, a SEC spokesman, said by telephone.

The central bank has approved a SEC proposal to allow inward remittances of investment funds by foreign brokerages with net assets of \$150 million. The SEC will announce this month when the brokerages can apply to enter Taiwan, he said.

The island opened its stock market to direct investment by foreign banks, insurance companies and fund management firms at the start of 1991.

Since then 35 foreign institutions have obtained approval to bring \$1.64 billion into Taiwan, although only about \$900 million has been brought in so far, another SEC official said.

Securities analysts welcomed the SEC's move, saying it could help revive the ailing market, which plunged 27 per cent in 1992 and has continued to drop this year because of political tensions and stock scandals.

"I feel the government is speeding up its efforts to open the financial markets," said Daniel Tsang, vice-president of International Investment Trust Corp.

## Israeli industrialists fear peace accord could harm economy

TEL AVIV — A peace or autonomy agreement could harm the country's industry, according to manufacturers who reviewed a report showing that competition from Palestinian industry is already hurting Israeli industry.

Industrialists said an accord bringing open borders could create problems if it lacks regulation.

Palestinian industry production is running at about 5 to 7 per cent of total Israeli production, and in some industries — such as shoes, textiles, and food — the percentage reached 10 per cent, according to data released by the Manufacturers Association's general industry section.

"If during the peace talks with the Palestinians, decisions are made without the inclusion of discussions on the economic ramifications of autonomy, Israel could easily find itself with 10,000 more unemployed workers," said Ze'ev Fink, chairman of the general industry sector at the Manufacturers Association.

"Already 20 per cent of the shoes bought in Israel are made in Hebron or Nablus, and if this goes on without regulations that are enforceable, then we are in trouble," said Eli Gur, general manager of Brill Shoe Industries.

"I don't mind if shoes come to Israel from the territories, as long as the consumer knows the quality he is getting," he said.

"But he won't know unless the shoes are marked 'Made in Hebron.' This is not the case today."

Both Fink and Gur said that enforcing regulation will be one of the hardest challenges facing Israeli industries and the authorities, but they argued that if nothing is done, the country will suffer — The Jerusalem Post.

## Turkish-Cypriots to use own electricity in 1993

ANKARA (R) — The breakaway Turkish Cypriot republic will start producing its electricity from mid-1993, when a thermal power plant being built by a joint venture becomes operational, officials have said.

The \$200 million plant at Tekmek, near Kyrenia, will supply 800 million kw-hours of electricity per year, double the area's current consumption, they said.

The Turkish Cypriots, who broke away in 1974 when Turkish troops invaded the northern third in the wake of the short-lived coup in Nicosia backed by the military junta then ruling Greece, have been importing power from the Greek side since then.

## Investment spree in Egypt seen slowing this year

CAIRO (R) — Investment in Egypt soared last year but will slow in 1993 as investors wait for the government to strike a new deal with the IMF and contain Muslim militant threats to tourism, foreign and Egyptian investors say.

A report by the World Bank, based on balance of payments statistics and research by bank officials in Egypt, forecast that direct investment flows in 1992 increased fourfold to \$1.2 billion from \$253 million in 1991.

But the country representative of the bank's commercial investment arm, the International Finance Corporation (IFC), expects investors will now wait for further progress in economic reforms agreed with the International Monetary Fund and the bank.

The reforms include the overhaul of the public sector and revival of Cairo's dormant financial markets to ease the flow of investments.

"Entrepreneurs are hesitant to invest until they see what the roadmap is...there's a slowdown in investor confidence," the IFC's John Stewart told Reuters.

The IFC, which investors often

watch as a barometer of the investment climate, has tripled its own investments in Egypt since the reforms began last year.

It has committed \$63.3 million in equity and commercial loans to private sector projects in the last two years, taking its total exposure in Egypt to \$101.5 million.

Ventures include iron and steel manufacturing, paper production, a plant making refrigerators adapted for hot weather, food and agroindustry, tourism and financial services.

Mr. Stewart said the IFC was currently looking at oil and gas projects and more ventures in tourism but had not committed itself.

Last year, economists predicted 20 per cent annual growth in the \$3 billion a year industry over the next few years, with up to \$1 billion invested in developing new areas on the Red Sea.

But a wave of Muslim militant attacks on foreign tourists in the last few months has jeopardised confidence.

"The agreement with the IMF is absolutely key...everything follows from that," Mr. Stewart said.

The IMF extended a stand-by

agreement for three months until March because of delays in carrying out reforms.

Bankers say private Egyptians, estimated to hold more than \$50 billion overseas, have changed billions of dollars to Egyptian pounds and deposited them in local banks to take advantage of Egyptian pound interest rates of over 15 per cent.

But they have been reluctant to commit themselves to long-term, productive projects and will now, he even more cautious following the surge in Muslim fundamentalist violence which the government says is backed by Iran.

Mr. Stewart said groups of businessmen in New York and London had discussed forming country funds to channel investment into Egyptian stocks but these have been blocked by the delay in selling off state companies and reviving the stock market.

A summary of the World Bank report in the Middle East Economic Digest did not break down the direct investment figure of \$1.2 billion. Bankers say investment by Gulf Arab countries has risen noticeably since the end of the Gulf war.

## Economic crisis deepens Cameroon cuts wages

YAOUNDE (R) — Cameroon has cut civil service salaries for the first time in a politically dangerous move reflecting the country's worsening economic crisis.

Five decrees signed by President Paul Biya and broadcast by state media Friday night announced wage cuts of between four and 20 per cent.

Prime Minister Simon Achidi Achu appealed in a statement for "civic spirit, understanding and discipline." He said the unprecedented measure would free resources for public investment and to repay some of the \$3.6 billion external debt.

Ordinary Cameroonians reacted with shock Saturday. "My husband said that he will send me and our five children to the village," said a woman in Yaounde, the capital, where most of the country's 170,000 civil servants live.

"Mine said we will have to move to a cheaper house," added her friend as they waited at a bus stop.

"Are we a developing country?" Is this development?" asked an angry student. "Instead of getting gradually better everything gets worse all the time."

The government exempted the country's 12,000 soldiers and paramilitary gendarmes from the salary cuts although their family allowances were ended.

It said 60,000 civil servants earning less than 50,000 CFA francs (\$140) per month were also exempt.

The reductions will be applied on a sliding scale ranging from four per cent for the low-paid to 20 per cent for directors and ministers. Housing and other allowances were also slashed.

A finance ministry official said the measure was expected to trim at least 20 per cent off the government's 288 billion CFA (\$1.04 billion) annual wage-bill, which accounts for more than half of state expenditure.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank and major Western donors have been pressing for years for drastic cuts in the size and cost of the civil

service. With the same population as Cameroon, about 12 million, Ivory Coast has one-third fewer functionaries.

France, the Biya government's main backer, loaned Cameroon \$110 million Friday but two thirds of that was going straight to the World Bank to settle arrears. The salary cuts should help Cameroon in its bid to repair relations with the IMF.

But the political risks to Mr. Biya were enormous. Throughout Africa the state is the main employer and a civil servant often feeds 20 dependants and relatives in his home village.

Civil servants form the backbone of Mr. Biya's ruling Cameroon People's Democratic Movement (RDPC) whose support was vital in his narrow and controversial election last October.

The opposition, foreign observers and Western governments led by the United States decried the vote as either rigged or seriously flawed by irregularities.

## Northwest Airlines to lay off 1,000 workers to cut costs

NEW YORK (R) — Northwest Airlines, blaming a "brutal economic environment" has said it is cutting 1,043 jobs or about two per cent of its workforce later this month.

The cuts, which will take effect Jan. 18, follow 1,000 layoffs in 1992 at the St. Paul, Minnesota-based airline, and analysts say they reflect the woes which continue to dog the U.S. airline industry.

Northwest, the fourth largest U.S. airline with 46,000 employees, said flight attendants, ground service employees and reservations agents would be affected by the cuts.

"The Northwest layoffs reflect continuing management concern over rising costs," said Salomon Bros. analyst Julius Malduis. "Since the carriers have been unable to improve the revenue side of the equation, they are left with no alternative but to attack the cost side."

"Adverse economic conditions and the brutal economic environment of the U.S. airline industry have required us to take aggressive action to reduce costs and improve operational efficiency," Northwest Senior Vice President Barry Kotari said in a statement.

Northwest said the layoffs would not affect on-board service or flight staffing levels because the number of its flights has been cut and the carrier has replaced

some larger wide-body aircraft with smaller aircraft on some routes.

Despite data that show the economy recovering last year, the airline industry stayed in its sick bed in 1992, analysts said.

"It was a recovery year, and yet demand (for air travel) got worse," said Goldman Sachs Co. analyst Glenn Engle.

Northwest took on heavy debt when the company went private in 1989 in a \$3.65 billion leveraged buyout. In November the government gave a tentative nod to Northwest and KLM Royal Dutch Airlines' request to link operations more closely. KLM owns 49 per cent of Northwest.

## Oil regains place as Russia's top export

MOSCOW (R) — Oil has moved to the top of Russia's export earnings league, pushing natural gas back into second place, the weekly Moscow News has said.

The newspaper's business supplement said new Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, formerly in charge of the energy complex, was likely to preserve oil's leading role in financial strategy.

The state statistics office said last month that Russian crude oil exports in January-November 1992 totalled 58 million tonnes, equivalent to about 1.3 million barrels per day, up 14 per cent from the equivalent 1991 period.

Natural gas exports fell one per cent to 81.1 billion cubic metres. Steep oil production declines had made gas the number one export earner early last year.

Russia, once the world's leading oil producer, is now second to Saudi Arabia.

Moscow News said the figures from the statistics office, Goskomstat, included estimates of illegal oil exports previously not taken into account.

It was not clear how illegal exports could be calculated.

The newspaper said another reason for the oil export jump was a revival of command-administrative trade mechanisms.

Under this system, oil exports might be increased by squeezing domestic consumption or supplies to other former Soviet republics.

Natural gas, on the other hand, is sold under long-term contracts not allowing for sharp adjustments.

Russia relies heavily on raw material exports to repay foreign debt of about \$70 billion.

### Financial Markets

in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close 7/1/1993	New York Close 6/11/93
Sterling Pound	1.5310	1.5315
Deutsche Mark	1.6360	1.6475
Swiss Franc	1.4950	1.5025
French Franc	5.5670	5.6050
Japanese Yen	125.22	125.39
European Currency Unit	1.2005 **	1.1915

LSD Per 1000

Swap Rate Opening at 8:00 a.m. GMT

Barocurrency Interest Rates

Date: 9/1/1993

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.10	3.37	3.56	4.00
Sterling Pound	7.10	7.06	6.81	6.68
Deutsche Mark	8.45	8.30	7.94	7.37
Swiss Franc	5.43	5.81	5.41	5.00
French Franc	11.25	11.25	10.37	9.37
Japanese Yen	3.81	3.71	3.56	3.46
European Currency Unit	10.16	10.00	9.68	8.81

Interbank bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollar 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Precious Metals

Date: 5/1/93

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	329.45	6.50	Silver	3.69	.080
21 Karat					

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Date: 9/1/1993

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.690	0.692
Sterling Pound	1.0573	1.0626
Deutsche Mark	0.4196	0.4217
Swiss Franc	0.4592	0.4613
French Franc	0.1231	0.1237
Japanese Yen	0.5499	0.5526
Dutch Guilder	0.3726	0.3745
Swedish Krona	0.0926	0.0931
Italian Lira	0.0456	0.0458
Belgian Franc	0.02035	0.02045

Per 100

Other Currencies

Date: 9/1/93

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.7950	1.8150
Lebanese Lira	0.036315	0.036915
Saudi Riyal	0.1632	0.1644
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2350	2.2800
Qatari Riyal	0.1864	0.1878
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2150
Omani Riyal	1.7550	1.7700
I.A.E. Dirham	0.1864	0.1878
Greek Drachma	0.3155	0.3255
Cypriot Pound	1.4710	1.4310

Per 100

CAS Indices for Amman Financial Market

Index	30/12/92	Close	6/1/93	Close
All-Share	173.97		179.52	
Banking Sector	126.39		129.24	
Insurance Sector	190.30		196.70	
Industry Sector	236.73		246.22	
Services Sector	246.73		252.91	

December 11, 1992 - 1993

COMPANY'S NAME	TRADING VOL.	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK	375	1.750	1.750	1.750
JORDAN EMIRAT BANK	21,086	2.349	2.349	2.349
THE JORDANIAN BANK	50,435	1.860	1.860	1.870
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	19,272	1.580	1.580	1.580
JORDAN BANK FOR SAVINGS & INVESTMENT	25,224	1.820	1.820	1.830
AMMAN BANKING CORPORATION/JORDAN	4,872	1.660	1.660	1.670
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	100,277	1.400	1.400	1.400
JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK	348	4.750	4.700	4.700
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	193,983	1.370	1.370	1.370
AMMAN BANK	19,519	2.050	2.180	2.180
AMMAN BANK	74,620	129.000	129.000	129.000
AMMAN BANK	16,394	1.260	1.260	1.260
JORDAN INSURANCE	710	3.500	3.550	3.550
JORDAN PROGRESS INSURANCE	97,209	1.670	1.670	1.670
AMMAN SEAS INSURANCE	37,423	1.900	1.850	1.790
AMMAN LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE	73,657	1.330	1.270	1.320
JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER	63,620	1.510	1.480	1.430
AMMAN INTERNATIONAL HOTELS	6,140	6.000	6.000	5.950
LEBES DISTRICT ELECTRICITY	21,544	0.870	0.910	0.910
VEHICLES OFFICE CORPORATION	1,826	1.000	1.000	1.000
UNITED MIDDLE EAST & CONCORD HOTELS	103,644	2.680	2.650	2.640
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	19,519	1.000	1.000	1.000
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES	32,850	4.610	4.550	4.620
AMMAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER	2,925	2.010	2.000	2.000
AMMAN PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING	10,469	1.350	1.340	1.310
JORDAN OIL REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	184,223	0.960	0.930	0.920
JORDAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER	2,925	2.010	2.000	2.000
AMMAN PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING	10,469	1.350	1.340	1.310
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AMMAN PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING	10,469	1.350	1.340	1.310
JORDAN OIL REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT				



# Sarajevo murder threatens peace talks

SARAJEVO (R) — The Bosnian peace talks were in jeopardy Saturday as the assassination of a top Bosnian government minister in Sarajevo sparked the wrath of the Muslim-led government and the international community.

Sporadic fighting rumbled on across the former Yugoslav republic and in Sarajevo, although fog and ice blunted the battle for the capital city, besieged by Serbs for nine months.

Friday's killing of Deputy Prime Minister Hakiya Turajlic by a Serb gunman sent the war of words spiralling on the eve of a resumption of the international Geneva peace talks.

The Bosnian government bitterly condemned the killing, blaming it not only on Serbs but on the U.N. commander in Bosnia and the French troops who were escorting Mr. Turajlic into the town from Sarajevo airport.

The government said it considered "General Philippe Morillon...responsible for the execution of the deputy prime minister."

...Bosnian radio reported. A Serb gunman killed Mr. Turajlic as he sat in the back of a U.N. armoured vehicle near Sarajevo. Gen. Morillon told a news conference Saturday that Serb forces had told him they had arrested the gunman.

Gen. Morillon said the U.N. forces had failed in its protection mission but that Serb forces in Lukavica, a district south of the main city, had told him they had apprehended the culprit and would bring him to justice.

He said the killing was a reminder of the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria in Sarajevo in 1914, an event viewed as the spark that started World War I.

"Everybody here is thinking of the first assassination in Sarajevo, which was followed by millions of deaths."

"We have to face this second assassination...I hope history will not repeat its madness," Gen. Morillon said.

The U.N. Security Council, U.N. peacekeeping forces, the United States government, France and Turkey, all quickly condemned the assassination.

U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali appealed for the peace talks to go ahead despite the setback while the Geneva mediators Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance said it illustrated the need to end the war.

"We shouldn't continue the negotiations in Geneva until the aggressors show us that they are for peace," Bosnian Vice-President Ejup Ganic said soon after the killing.

He sent this advice to Bosnia's delegation in Geneva. Bosnian radio said, but the final word on participation was not expected until later.

Peace hopes suffered another blow when Bosnian Serbs rejected the proposals by international mediators Mr. Vance and Lord Owen for a new constitutional set-up and geographical division of Bosnia-Herzegovina into 10 regions.

The Bosnian Serbs' self-styled

parliament, which met in the northeast town of Bijeljina Friday, said it would not allow the Serb people to be divided into several provinces without geographical continuity and would not accept that they should "become a party of any new nation."

Diplomats at the Geneva conference said that if the Serbs rejected the peace plan, pressure would grow for international intervention to remove their heavy weaponry and air force.

According to the plan, the Bosnian Serbs would lose their lifeline corridor from the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia to Serb-held territories in northern Bosnia and Croatia.

Mr. Vance and Lord Owen have proposed to place the corridor under international monitoring to allow free passage.

Referring to maps, (Serb) deputies are resolute in their stand that the Serb people cannot relinquish their right as a constituent people to create their constituent state ... "he Serb parliament said in its statement.

Mr. Vance and Lord Owen have said the Serb plan to establish a "state within a state" is totally unacceptable.

In Belgrade, a Serbian extremist leader whose power has dramatically increased in recent weeks made a blistering attack on Yugoslav President Dobrica Cosic Friday.

Mr. Cosic warned Bosnian Serbs on Wednesday that they faced an international military attack if they did not accept the Geneva peace plan and appealed for a government of national unity.

Vojislav Seselj, leader of the extreme nationalist Serb Radical Party, stormed out of a meeting with Mr. Cosic and other leaders of major parties, saying "traitors" around the president should be arrested for spreading defeatism and panic.

"It would be difficult to find an example of another world statesman who attempted to sow greater panic among his people," Mr. Seselj said.

## WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

### Bush vows to back U.S. spy arm

LANGLEY, Virginia (R) — President George Bush visited the headquarters of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) on Friday and in an emotional farewell vowed to champion the cause of a powerful spy apparatus even after he leaves office. Mr. Bush, himself a former CIA director, was greeted as a conquering hero by CIA employees, including undercover operatives, who lined the corridors to welcome him. "Ladies and gentlemen, our most distinguished alumnus," current CIA Director Robert Gates said before Mr. Bush spoke in the agency's sky-lighted main cafeteria. CIA and White House officials told photographers and video cameramen not to take pictures of the 1,000 or more of the agency's 15,000 employees to protect the identity of clandestine operatives among those in the lunch-room crowd.

### French, German army divisions to be twinned

PARIS (R) — The French army division which took Hitler's "eagle's nest" retreat in Berchtesgaden at the end of World War II is to be twinned with a German division as a sign of friendship between the two countries. French officers told reporters Friday a ceremony would be held at the headquarters of the French Second Armoured Division on Jan. 19 in Versailles to mark its twinning with German Seventh Panzerdivision based at Unna, near Dortmund. Officers from both armies will take part in that and a similar ceremony to be held later at the German unit's base. The twinning of units, relatively common among Western armies, involves exchanges between sub-units to allow each side to study the other's language, weaponry and working methods. The twinning is separate from the structure of the nascent Franco-German "Eurocorps," made up of one division from each army in addition to an already existing Franco-German brigade.

### Greece accepts Macedonia arbitration plan

ATHENS (R) — Greece accepted a French proposal for international arbitration in a dispute between Athens and the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia, a government statement said Friday. "Greece does not reject the French initiative," the statement said. "International arbitration is the only approach for resolving disputes between neighbouring countries when bilateral talks could not have been productive and war cannot be considered as means of resolving differences," it added. Greece has blocked the European Community from recognising Macedonia, saying the name implies territorial ambitions against its own northern region also called Macedonia.

### Woman who stalked Bush sent to prison

DENVER, Colorado (R) — A woman who pleaded guilty to planning to kill President George Bush while he campaigned in Colorado last September was sentenced Friday to 27 months in prison and ordered to undergo psychiatric treatment. Deborah Butler, a 33-year-old legal secretary, was suffering from reduced mental capacity on Sept. 15 when she took a loaded pistol to an election rally where Mr. Bush was speaking, a judge ruled. He also ordered a \$2,000 fine. If Ms. Butler had not been distracted by another person as the presidential motorcade passed, "there's every reason to believe the act would have been brought to fruition," the judge said. In the diary and in later statements Ms. Butler said she had considered using her gun because she wanted to draw attention to her emotional problems. She was suffering from marital and job stress, her lawyer said.

### Judge denies Noriega request

MIAMI (AP) — Lawyers for Panama say they believe ousted leader Manuel Noriega has plenty of money hidden around the world and they intend to find it and return it to the country's depleted treasury. A federal judge Thursday refused to throw out a \$6.5 billion lawsuit by the nation of Panama against Noriega. The lawsuit, filed in October 1990, charges that Mr. Noriega — who faces 40 years in a U.S. prison for a drug-trafficking conviction last spring — looted Panama's treasury, tortured and killed opponents and ran drug and money-laundering rackets. The search for Mr. Noriega's plunder is "not just symbolic," said Thomas Ewells, a Miami attorney representing Panama. "There are substantial amounts of money that have been frozen in other jurisdictions. Plus, our hope is to discover additional funds that he secreted."

### Rain eases California drought

LOS ANGELES (R) — Residents of southern California, who have suffered through six years of drought, were recovering Friday from near-record rains and bracing for more downpours over the weekend. As two days of heavy rain gave way to intermittent showers on Friday the National Weather Service warned that another heavy winter storm was to slam into the area Saturday, bringing rain which could last until the middle of next week. Southern California is officially in its seventh year of drought, but soggy residents of the area were crying "enough." Recent rainfall has been almost twice normal for this time of the year compared to pre-drought years.

### Clinton: U.S. should not be involved in kidnapping

AUSTIN, Texas (R) — President-elect Bill Clinton said Friday he disagreed with the 1990 kidnapping of a Mexican doctor for prosecution in the United States and would not condone such actions in the future. The United States, he told a news conference after meeting here with Mexican President Carlos Salinas, must respect the sovereignty of other nations. "I believe when another nation is willing to obey the law and in the absence of information that the government itself has willfully refused to obey the law, that the United States should not be involved in kidnapping," Mr. Clinton said.

### Medellin abandoned by government — mayor

BOGOTA, Colombia (R) — Hours after the latest in a series of powerful car bombs killed two people, injured 37 and wrecked a housing complex in the drug city of Medellin, the mayor complained that the government seemed to have abandoned the city to a bloody fate. Assassins in the pay of ruthless cocaine cartels have killed 73 police in Medellin in less than three months, set off half a dozen car bombs to blow up police patrols, mounted illegal roadblocks and ordered numerous massacres. Prosecutor General Gustavo de Greiff said Medellin cartel boss Pablo Escobar personally directed the execution-style killing of a retired police officer, who was shot dead in front of a group of hostages. Police patrols on foot have all but disappeared because officers are too terrified to risk their lives. "Medellin has not received one single call for solidarity or show of support from the government after the latest bombs," said Mayor Luis Alfredo Ramos. "It seems that the entire top echelon of government have taken collective holidays...for the ministers, it seems Medellin does not exist."

### Vietnamese police hold opium traffickers

HANOI (R) — Hanoi police said Saturday they had made one of Vietnam's biggest drug seizures when they arrested a married couple last month and netted 65 kilograms of opium. Ta Duy Tu, 32, and his wife Giang Thi Thuy, 30, were arrested on Dec. 21 while transporting the opium by vehicle from Hai Hung province east of Hanoi to the capital, police told Reuters, confirming an official newspaper report. Police also seized some opium at the couple's house in Hanoi as well as 133 old silver coins that are not considered legal money in Vietnam but used by some ethnic minorities for trading. Police said the couple confessed to drug trafficking. The date of their trial was not available. Government officials and foreign drug experts say opium abuse and trafficking have increased in recent years as communist authorities have given people more freedom to move around the country. Some ethnic minorities in the northern mountains have traditionally smoked opium and grown the poppy plants that produce the drug.

## COLUMN

### Japan to study video games effect

TOKYO (R) — Japan's health ministry is to study the effect of computer video games on the physical and mental health of children following complaints from parents. Kyodo news agency said Saturday. The ministry will soon set up a research team of paediatricians, sports physiologists and child psychologists to observe how children react physically and psychologically to a wide range of video games over a one-year period. Britain has launched an inquiry into reports that children may suffer epileptic fits from computer games. The move followed newspaper reports that two boys in Cardiff had suffered fits. Every second household in Japan owns at least one computer video game. The equipment is usually connected to a television screen or a video monitor and operated with a joystick or specially-designed keyboard that differs from maker to maker. Kyodo said Nintendo, which has a 90 per cent domestic market share for home computer games, has sold more than 40 million video game sets since 1983.

### 'Fluffy balls' of wool could mop up oil

CANBERRA (R) — Surplus Australian wool may be able to mop up oil spills such as the one that hit the Shetland islands this week, according to an Australian opposition politician. The wool industry had spent two years researching the possibility because of wool's "particularly effective absorbent capabilities." Tim Fischer, leader of the rural-based National Party, said in a statement. The research showed great promise, although the idea was not at an operational stage yet, he said. Dieter Plate, a wool researcher with the government's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, said wool was a good absorbent in the form of fluffy little balls, which could be netted into long sausages to sweep up the oil. "And because it's biodegradable you can just compost it," he said in an interview. Australia is steadily selling its stockpile of four million 175-kilogramme bales of wool, the result of an unsuccessful price-support scheme abandoned in 1991. The Liberian-registered tanker Braer ran aground in the Shetland Islands at the northernmost tip of the British Isles three days ago with 84,500 tonnes of crude oil on board.

### Mandela builds replica of prison home

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Nelson Mandela has built a replica of the warder's house in which he spent the last two of his 27 years as a prisoner, a newspaper reported Friday. The Johannesburg Star quoted sources as saying Mr. Mandela originally wanted the house at his birthplace of Qunu, in Transkei, to be a "carbon copy" of the warder's home at Victor Verster prison in the Cape but some materials were not available. The prison service supplied the plans and Mr. Mandela's 400,000 rand (\$133,000) home, had the same arches, windows, gutters and floorplan. The paper said Mr. Mandela, who normally lives in Johannesburg and refers to his four bedroom three bathroom Transkei home as "my place of rest," had declined to comment on his reasons for copying the house. He was released in February 1990.

### Allen wants psychiatric check for Farrow

NEW YORK (R) — Film director Woody Allen wants actress Mia Farrow, with whom he is embroiled in a child custody battle, to undergo a psychiatric examination, his lawyers said Friday. After a Manhattan judge ruled Friday that cameras would not be allowed in court during their custody hearing next Tuesday, lawyers for Mr. Allen said he wants ex-lover Farrow to undergo the examination before a ruling is made on custody of their three children.

### Thieves steal car with passengers

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Six men stole a car in South Africa's Boipatong township with two women passengers still inside, police said Saturday. The car thieves, one armed with a rifle, ordered the driver and a male companion out of the car which had stopped at a house in Boipatong Friday night. Police said the women were dropped off unharmed in nearby Sharpeville two hours later. The car was still missing.

## Thousands mourn Pakistani army chief

RAWALPINDI, Pakistan (Agencies) — A crowd of thousands gathered on a racecourse in Rawalpindi Saturday to mourn Pakistani Army Chief of Staff General Asif Nawaz, who died of a heart attack Friday.

President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, cabinet ministers and the military top brass were chief mourners at funeral prayers for the tough-talking general who died after just 36 months in Pakistan's most powerful job.

"He died on a very lucky day, (Friday)," said one army brigadier among the thousands of soldiers who gathered at the old racecourse in the military cantonment in Islamabad's twin city of Rawalpindi.

The huge numbers of mourners at the disused ground prevented a military honour guard holding a last salute for the general.

Gen. Nawaz died of a heart attack while jogging Friday, aged 56. His death has upset the delicate balance among the ruling triumvirate of president, prime minister and army chief.

The president and the prime minister walked behind the coffin, which was placed aboard a helicopter for the journey to the village of Gen. Nawaz's birth near the central Punjab town of Jhelum, where he was to be buried.

There was no word yet as to who would succeed Gen. Nawaz, although the next most senior army officer, Lahore Corps commander Mohammad Ashraf who is due to retire in April, was reportedly named acting army chief of staff.

Pakistan has been ruled by the military for most of the 45 years since its creation at the partition of British India in 1947.

Gen. Nawaz was the second army chief to die in the post. President Mohammad Zia ul Haq, who concurrently held the job of army chief of staff, was killed in a mysterious plane crash in 1988.

Former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto called the death of Gen. Nawaz "a great loss to the nation."

"He was a true professional soldier and he did what he said he would do," he kept the army out of politics," Ms. Bhutto said from her home in the southern port city of Karachi.

## U.S. decides not to list Pakistan as terrorism sponsor

WASHINGTON (AP) — The State Department expressed concern Friday over reports of continued Pakistani support for Kashmiri and Sikh militants in India but declined to designate Pakistan a sponsor of "international terrorism."

Any country so designated is subject to a series of sanctions under U.S. law.

U.S. officials said there was strong evidence that Kashmiri and Sikh militants have received training on Pakistani territory and that Pakistan has provided weapons to them. They also said that adding Pakistan to the "terrorism" list had received serious consideration among State Department officials.

Under-Secretary of State Arnold Kanter met Thursday with Pakistani Ambassador Syeda Abida Hussain to discuss Pakistan's ties with the militants in India and other issues.

A State Department response to press questions said Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger determined that available information did not warrant a finding that Pakistan had "repeatedly

provided support for acts of international terrorism."

The State Department pointed out, however, that Pakistan or any nation may be designated as a state sponsor of "terrorism" at any time if the facts warrant. The "terrorism" list is normally reviewed each January.

Countries currently on the list are Libya, Syria, Cuba, North Korea, Iran and Iraq.

These countries are barred from receiving U.S. aid, from purchasing U.S.-made weapons, and from U.S. support in international lending institutions. Trade benefits also would be withdrawn, among other sanctions.

Throughout most of the 1980s, the United States had close ties with Pakistan, primarily because of the role that country played in funneling assistance to anti-communist rebels in neighbouring Afghanistan. On the list of U.S. aid recipients, Pakistan ranked third.

But Pakistan's strategic importance to the United States began to diminish with the Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan in February 1989.

## U.S. said to give Ukraine official assurances letter

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States sent Ukraine's top arms negotiator home with a letter on security assurances that all sides hope will persuade Kiev's parliament to ratify the key START I nuclear weapons treaty, U.S. officials said Friday.

The letter is said to fall short of the kind of formal, high-level declaration Ukrainian Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Tarasyuk was seeking on a visit to Washington that ended Friday with a White House meeting with President George Bush.

But it and the session with Mr. Bush, unusual because the president normally meets only with higher-ranked delegations — seemed to have improved the Ukrainian outlook on the visit.

"We were very satisfied with the atmosphere of real partnership and...readiness to help Ukraine in this very delicate situation," Ukrainian Ambassador Oleh Bilorus told Reuters in a telephone interview.

Mr. Bilorus, who attended Mr. Tarasyuk's meeting with Mr. Bush, declined to confirm that U.S. officials gave the deputy

foreign minister a letter concerning the security assurances Ukraine had been demanding before START-I was ratified.

But a senior U.S. official told Reuters:

"My understanding is that they were given a letter...that describes the kinds of things that we were talking about, the kind of assurances we could make once they ratify the treaty and pledge to become a non-nuclear state."

"Yes, we put something in writing that they would take back and show their folks," he added.

Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk and other officials have demanded security guarantees and compensation in exchange for giving up the arms and their expensive nuclear components.

But the State Department, after two days of talks with Mr. Tarasyuk, said Thursday it was prepared to give Ukraine disarmament aid and security assurances only after it ratifies the START-I and nuclear non-proliferation treaties that would codify Kiev's commitment to become a non-nuclear state.

## All survive Indian plane crash

NEW DELHI (R) — All 161 people aboard an Indian Airlines-operated plane had a miraculous escape Saturday when it crashed, overturned and burned on landing in thick fog at Delhi airport.

The tail and the right wing of the 164-seater TU-154 plane, leased from Uzbekistan Airlines and flown by a Russian crew, were ripped off in the crash on the main runway, Delhi Airport Director Harbans Kumar told reporters.

Civil aviation officials said all passengers on board survived but four were injured. Civil Aviation Minister Madhavrao Scindia offered his resignation after the crash.

A spokesman for Mr. Scindia said he offered his resignation to Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao after a brief meeting. It was not clear whether Mr. Rao had accepted it, he said.

Mr. Scindia blamed the Indian Commercial Pilots' Association (ICPA), leading a month-old strike of Indian Airlines pilots, for forcing the government to lease Tupolev TU-154 planes from Uzbekistan and Bulgaria.

An Indian Airlines official said the government suspended all flights of TU-154s after the crash.

"Due to the unfortunate atti-

tude of the pilots of Indian airlines, the management was compelled to lease aircraft," Mr. Scindia said in a statement.

"Since the accident occurred in the case of one such aircraft, as head of the Civil Aviation Ministry I would not be at peace with myself if I did not tender my resignation."

ICPA spokesman Satish Lumba said the plane missed the runway — whose central lights were not turned on because they were under maintenance — and the pilot tried to steer back on to it.

"The plane went airborne and landed a second time and spun. The right wing separated and the plane flipped over on to its back," Mr. Lumba said.

He said the right wing and tail breaking off appeared to have been a major factor in allowing the passengers to escape quickly through the holes in the fuselage it created.

The ICPA, which is striking for better wages and improved safety at the many Indian airports with less than up-to-date landing equipment, said the crash was entirely the fault of the government and refused to accept any blame.

The ICPA said it had warned the Civil Aviation Directorate

Thursday of the safety hazards in flying the TU-154s.

"It is surprising that Uzbekistan aircraft are now flying on call signs of Indian Airlines without filing weather minima with the national airport authority," the ICPA said in a letter to the Civil Aviation Directorate and made available to Reuters.

It referred to statutory safety regulations concerning the minimum visibility in which a commercial aircraft can take off and land with safety.

"There is not a single air traffic control unit in India which is aware of the minima of these (TU-154) aircraft," the letter said.

"We feel that safety is being jeopardised and your office cannot remain a silent spectator to all these gimmicks that may lead to a fatal accident in the present scenario."

The ICPA made a subsequent statement Friday warning that the Russian pilots were not adequately trained to fly in and out of Indian airports.

"Pilots operating TU-154s are totally unfamiliar with the Indian airports and have not undertaken any route checks," normal procedures for pilots for learning the new routes and airports, the ICPA said.

## Hoxha's widow on trial

TIRANA, Albania (AP) — The widow of Albania's former Stalinist leader Enver Hoxha and a senior government aide went on trial Friday on charges of abuse and misappropriation of state funds.

The trial of Nexhmije Hoxha was Albania's first of a leading member of the toppled communist elite that kept the impoverished Balkan country isolated from the rest of the world for decades.

About 130 people packed the small courtroom as Mrs. Hoxha, 72, and Kimo Buxhefi, the head of government services to the leadership in 1980-1990, were escorted in by two policemen.

The poverty of Europe's poorest country was evident in the courtroom, where about 10 rough wooden benches were laid out on each side of the gallery in the Tirana district court. Light was provided by two bare bulbs sticking out of the wall, and heating was switched on in the courtroom only an hour before the trial began.

Before Tirana prosecutor Teodor Mosko read the 34-page indictment, Mrs. Hoxha complained that proceedings were not carried live on TV.

But Judge Muharrem Kushe said such plans were dropped because live programming of "contradictory" witness accounts could prejudice the trial. A request by Mrs. Hoxha for her case to be separated from Mr. Buxhefi's also was turned down.

Mrs. Hoxha's son, Sokol, said in an interview Thursday that the trial was politically motivated and that he expected her to get a prison term of at least 10 years. Law permits a jail term of seven to 25 years, and also allows the death penalty for severe economic crimes.

Mrs. Hoxha was a powerful Albanian communist in her own right, and after her husband's death in 1985 was considered one of those who tried to prevent reform.

The indictment charged that after her husband's death Mrs. Hoxha misused a total of 764,192 leks, worth about \$75,000 at the time, or more than 300 years' salary for Albanians lucky enough to have work.

She also was charged with defrauding Albania of another 121,738 leks (\$12,000) but not paying full value for goods and services purchased for her by the state.

## Former U.S. secretaries of state praise Clinton team

LITTLE ROCK (AP) — Four former U.S. secretaries of state say President-elect Bill Clinton picked a solid foreign policy team and should be able to make up for his own lack of experience with on-the-job training.

The four were in Mr. Clinton's hometown Friday for a meeting to discuss foreign policy options facing the new administration.

While the session was taking place, Mr. Clinton was in Austin, Texas, to meet with Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari.

But the four arrived here Thursday in time to meet with Mr. Clinton at the Arkansas governor's mansion and attend a reception with the president-elect.

They are here for the annual report of the secretaries of state. The one-day session, sponsored by the Fulbright Institute of International Relations and the Southern Centre for International Studies, allows former diplomats to discuss and analyse foreign policy issues.

It is open to the public.

Alexander Haig and George Shultz. Henry Kissinger was expected, but cancelled because of a scheduling conflict.

The four said Mr. Clinton inherits a world in turmoil, but he and his team appear up to the task.

"You've got to toss a coin every morning" to determine the most pressing problem, said Mr. Muskie, a member of Jimmy Carter's cabinet. "Is it going to be Bosnia or Somalia? Today it's Bosnia."

Mr. Muskie said Mr. Clinton's lack of foreign affairs experience should not be counted against him. "When I became secretary of state I didn't have very much experience, except for being a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and all those meetings were held in Washington."

"It's on-the-job training," he said. "You learn as you go."

Mr. Haig, secretary of state under Ronald Reagan, said Mr. Clinton "picked a good team. I've known most of them and have worked with them over the years."

He said Mr. Clinton cannot



President-elect Bill Clinton gestures as he meets with four former U.S. secretaries of state. From left to right: Alexander Haig, George Shultz, Mr. Clinton, William Rogers and Edmund Muskie (AP photo)

ignore foreign policy while dealing with trouble at home, or vice-versa.

"You cannot succeed at home if you fail abroad and you cannot succeed abroad if you fail at home," Mr. Haig said.

Mr. Rogers, secretary of state in Richard Nixon's administration, said Mr. Clinton "selected a good team of people in the foreign affairs area."

He said Mr. Clinton's top priority must be helping Russian President Boris Yeltsin maintain democracy in his country.

"I think probably the most important long-term problem is how to be sure Mr. Yeltsin is saved. I think he is vital to the security of the world," Mr. Rogers said.

Getting the START arms reduction treaty with Russia ratified should be Mr. Clinton's second priority, Mr. Rogers said.

On Iraq, Mr. Rogers said Mr. Clinton "must clean that up." He said the incoming president must continue to press the United Nations to hold Iraq to U.N. resolutions.

"If they pass a resolution that is not enforced, as in the past, their credibility is affected," he said.